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MARSHAL KULIKOV VIEWS NEED FOR, EXPLAINS WARSAW PACT'S WORK

LD161209Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 May 78 pp 2-3 LD

[Article by Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact states' Joint Armed Forces: "Reliable Bastion of Peace and Socialism"]

[Text] "There must never be war"--these words of L.I. Brezhnev which rang out with tremendous emotional force and cogency in the book "Malaya Zemlya" reflect the innermost thoughts and aspirations of Soviet people and all people of good will.

The fact that Europe's peoples have been living under conditions of peace for many years now is a great service to the military-political alliance of the socialist states united by the Warsaw Pact.

The conclusion in May 1955 of the Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Aid Treaty among the European socialist countries was conditioned not by their internal requirements, not by the laws of building socialism and communism, but by external conditions--the existence of an imperialist military coalition and the increasing threat of attack from aggressive forces. In other words, the signing of this treaty which has entered history as the Warsaw Pact was a forced measure in retaliation to the aggressive actions of the imperialist powers and their military blocs headed by the United States. "We created this community," L.I. Brezhnev has stressed, "primarily in order to oppose the threat of imperialism and the aggressive military blocs which it created and to defend the cause of socialism and peace through common efforts."

The past years have conclusively shown to the whole world the noble aims and the genuinely defensive and peace-loving character of the Warsaw Pact. In contrast to the aggressive NATO bloc and the other military groupings of the imperialist powers, this organization has no aims except defense of the socialist gains of the peoples and its member countries. Its members threaten no one, have no intention of attacking anyone, do not claim other countries' territory and do not interfere in the internal affairs of other states. This is graphically confirmed by the fact that during the Warsaw Pact's existence its members have done everything possible and necessary to relax tension in the world and to prevent and avert military conflicts. At the same time none of the postwar military conflicts unleashed by aggressive and militarist forces has failed to involve the participation or support of the imperialist military blocs. Even now they constantly interfere in the affairs of the independent liberated states and shamelessly flout people's rights.

As the many years' experience of the existence of the Warsaw Pact shows, its entire activity is aimed at averting possible aggression by the imperialists, preserving peace and insuring international security. The socialist states' combat alliance not only insures their security but is also an important factor in deterring the aggressive aspirations of imperialist circles.

Thanks to the active and consistent peace-loving policy of the Soviet Union, the unity of fraternal socialist countries and the efforts of progressive mankind, the imperialists' aggressive actions in many regions of the world have been stopped and the attempts by imperialist reaction to stifle, through the use of internal counterrevolution, the people's power in Hungary and Czechoslovakia have been foiled. The positive shifts which have taken place in the last few years in Europe and throughout the world have been possible to a considerable extent as a result of the effect of the Warsaw Pact states' policy.

The socialist countries are persistently implementing an active program of defense of peace and the strengthening of international security. The principled, class foreign policy activity of the CPSU and the other fraternal communist and workers parties and the consistent struggle to implement the peace program adopted by the 24th CPSU Congress and further developed at the 25th congress are exerting a beneficial influence on improving the international situation and preserving universal peace. All progressive mankind is noting with satisfaction that a significant turn toward the relaxation of tension, the establishment of neighborliness and the expansion of mutually advantageous cooperation among states has been made in Europe and other areas of our planet as a result of the constructive foreign policy activity of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries. The Leninist principles of peaceful coexistence among states belonging to different social systems are receiving increasingly wide recognition. This accords with the interests of all European peoples and all other peoples and with the cause of peace and social progress.

The wisdom, energy and persistence with which the CPSU Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev himself consistently pursue the Leninist policy of peace and friendship among the peoples to deliver mankind from the threat of another destructive war are of tremendous importance in creating an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect in international life. The efforts of our party and its Central Committee are aimed at rendering irreversible what has been achieved through detente and at extending this process more widely, embracing new states and regions.

Of course, the CPSU, the fraternal communist and workers parties and the governments of the socialist countries take into account the reactionary and aggressive character of the policy of certain circles in the imperialist states. The North Atlantic bloc is still the source of threat to international security. Its military potential and aggressive thrust are constantly intensifying.

Influential reactionary forces of imperialism are particularly active in the United States. They are persistently seeking the constant strengthening of military and particularly nuclear might, they are encouraging in every possible way the development and production of new types of weapons and they are increasing military expenditure year in, year out.

In order to justify and camouflage the arms race and the buildup of military forces a provocative ballyhoo has been raised across the ocean about the Warsaw Pact states' "threatening military superiority" [peroves] over the NATO bloc in Europe and about the aggressive intentions supposedly characteristic of the Soviet Union. Answering the promoters of this ballyhoo, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev declared in his recent speech on the cruiser Admiral Senyavin: "We are not threatening anyone. The talk of the so-called 'Soviet threat' is a manifest fantasy of detente opponents--nothing more. We are improving our defense with the sole aim of reliably defending the gains of Great October and firmly protecting the peaceful labor of Soviet people and our friends and allies."

The contemporary stage of the development of the world socialist system, when the fraternal countries are solving extremely important problems of socialist and communist building and of asserting peace and the security of the peoples on earth, demands with particular force the further strengthening of the unity and cohesion of the socialist community countries and the coordination of their foreign policy efforts. The gradual rapprochement of the countries of the socialist community is an objective law of its development and the source of present and future victories. The ruling Marxist-Leninist parties have been and remain the soul and the motive force of the socialist countries strengthening unity.

The Warsaw Pact's supreme organ--the Political Consultative Committee--plays an exceptionally important role in developing the political cooperation and strengthening the positions of the socialist countries in the world arena and their influence on the course of world events. The regular conferences of the Political Consultative Committee--in whose work the general and first secretaries of the communist and workers parties' Central Committees, the heads of government and other leaders of the allied states participate--examine fundamental questions of the international situation, coordinate joint foreign policy actions and determine the immediate and long-term tasks of the struggle for peace, national independence and socialism.

The questions of detente and the strengthening of peace in Europe occupy a special place in the Political Consultative Committee's activity. The Warsaw Pact countries have jointly elaborated and proclaimed the basic principles of a collective security system in Europe and of the relations among European states--principles which have now earned universal recognition among the peoples. The political Consultative Committee Conferences have repeatedly discussed the problems of normalizing relations between East and West, ending the arms race and reducing armed forces, eliminating military blocs and withdrawing foreign troops from other countries' territories.

The session of the Warsaw Pact states Foreign Ministers Committee held in April in Sofia was new confirmation of the consistency of the socialist countries' policy in the struggle for the strengthening of peace and detente.

In this speech at the 18th All-Union Komsomol Congress Comrade L.I. Brezhnev again set forth a specific program of measures aimed at totally ending further quantitative and qualitative growth in the armaments and armed forces of states which possess large military potential and at creating the conditions for their subsequent reduction. However, a reluctance to face reality is still clearly evident in the policy of the Western powers belonging to NATO. Detente opponents are striving once again to push the world into cold war and direct military confrontation.

In response to the war preparations of the imperialist states, and above all of the NATO bloc, the communist and workers parties and the governments of the Warsaw Pact countries, while waging an active struggle for the deepening and materialization of detente, are doing everything necessary in order to constantly raise their vigilance and maintain our socialist community's defense might at the proper level, so that no one is tempted to try to resolve the historical dispute between the two opposed social systems by military means.

An important mission in defending the people's socialist gains and security has been assigned to the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact states. They oppose the main grouping of the forces of the chief imperialist powers belonging to the aggressive NATO bloc. As a result of the joint efforts of the communist and workers parties and allied governments and of the joint and national commands, a precise system of military cooperation has been created in the Warsaw Pact countries which embraces virtually all aspects of the life and activity of the allied armies; and rich experience has been accumulated in this field.

The Defense Ministers Committee and the Military Council of the Joint Armed Forces perform a large amount of fruitful work in reinforcing the defense capability of the Warsaw Pact countries. At their sessions most important questions of the building and development of the allied states' armed forces and the raising of their combat readiness are discussed, and coordinated decisions and recommendations adopted.

An important feature of the modern development of the Warsaw Pact armies is the constant improvement of their technical equipment. They now have the necessary modern means of armed struggle and possess a great strike force, firepower and maneuvering and other potential.

In leading the Joint Armed Forces and coordinating their activity the joint command annually elaborates and implements a broad complex of joint measures aimed at their further development, at increasing the operational training of commanders and staffs and the combat training of troops and fleets, and at the improvement of combat readiness. To this end great attention is paid to the holding of joint multiple exercises by the branches of the armed forces, control organs and rear services of the allied armies in accordance with the plans of the joint and national commands. This in turn exerts beneficial influence on the consolidation of combat collaboration and the development of a feeling of internationalism, friendship and combat comradeship among the servicemen of the fraternal armies.

The Joint Armed Forces have experienced cadres and possess everything necessary for the successful fulfillment of the tasks facing them. They can resolve the most complex combat tasks under any conditions. This was reaffirmed by the joint command post exercise "Soyuz-78" held this year on Rumanian territory. It may confidently be said that the business of defending the Warsaw Pact states is up to present-day requirements.

There is no doubt that the Soviet Armed Forces, which possess all modern means of armed struggle and enormous experience and advanced theory, comprise the basis of the combat might of the Joint Armed Forces. They include strategic nuclear forces which serve as the reliable shield of the world system of socialism.

In his report devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces Marshal of the Soviet Union Comrade D.F. Ustinov, USSR defense minister, stressed: "OUR ARMED FORCES ARE THE LIVING EMBODIMENT OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONALISM. Their combat might reliably serves the interests of socialism and communism, the interests of social progress and peace.... taking into account the continuing growth of the war preparations of the aggressive NATO bloc, Soviet people and Army and Navy servicemen will do everything to strengthen the fraternal defense alliance and maintain the combat readiness of the Joint Armed Forces at the necessary level."

The Warsaw Pact Organization, whose main aim is the defense of the fraternal countries socialist gains and the struggle for the consolidation of peace and security in Europe, is continuing to reliably serve these noble aims.

CEMA EXECUTIVE DISCUSSES POWER ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

LD1704207 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] The Executive of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance has gone into session in Moscow. Deputy prime ministers of six East European countries, the Soviet Union, Cuba and Mongolia are discussing the outlook for the development of the power and engineering industries until 1990. By that year the socialist community expects to increase electricity production almost two and a half times over. Work is to be completed on a single power grid on the territory from the Elbe to the Pacific Coast.

NOVOYE VREMYA ON GROWTH OF INTERNATIONAL ARMS TRADE

LD122102Y Moscow TASS in English 1036 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 12 TASS--A swift and uncontrolled process of stockpiling of armaments that was started by Western countries is turning the world into a powder keg. In these conditions, the Soviet Union advances as the priority task the proposal to achieve further lessening of war danger, to arrest the stockpiling of armaments and, hence, to limit trade in armaments, writes the weekly NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA].

Never before did the trade in armaments assume so great scopes as in the second half of the seventies. The cost of armaments sold in the world market in 1952 amounted to 300 million dollars. The cost of armaments sold in 1977 was approximately 24 billion dollars. It increased over the last quarter of the century 80-fold.

The United States is dominating in the armaments' market. According to the Pentagon's data, it sold or gave free of charge to other countries 126 billion dollars worth of armaments and military equipment from 1950 to the 1977 financial year. Last year, the United States accounted for about half of the world trade in armaments. Since 1973, France is second for the volume of export of armaments among capitalist countries.

Britain is third for the volume of export of armaments.

"By the end of the seventies Israel will, possibly, become one of the biggest exporters of armaments. It is developing its war industry at a high pace now," the weekly writes.

"The Maoist China plays a special role in the world trade in armaments. The PRC supplies military equipment and materials, mostly to reactionary regimes and groupings and countries that are hostile to the Soviet Union, and it also imports armaments in large volumes. Peking's envoys seek out in various countries new types of weapons, licences for the production of the latest missiles and planes, and specialists. Striving to achieve their aims, Chinese envoys get into direct contact with NATO countries and military monopolies".

"The biggest part of the export of armaments always went to the most explosive regions. Vast volumes of armaments are being supplied to reactionary regimes that brazenly flout human rights but reliably ensure the interests of American and European monopolies".

"The military export has become, above all, the means of ensuring imperialism's political rule and of pressure on other countries", the NEW TIMES writes.

Weapons serve as a pay for military bases or raw materials that are being obtained at advantage from developing countries which are supplied in return with extremely expensive military equipment. And while merchants and sellers of armaments get billions in profit, buyers of armaments, particularly in the Third World, assume an inordinately heavy burden. These states, paying out vast sums for the purchases and production of costly armaments squander for their industrial development, for intensification of agriculture and granting of vital social and cultural needs.

since a huge amount of weapons is obtained by reactionary pro-imperialist regimes, the number of hot spots in the world is increasing and the international situation is complicated.

PRAVDA CORRESPONDENT ON RESULTS OF IAEA SESSION

LD150928 Moscow TASS in English 0928 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 15, TASS--"The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is doing much to put the atom to creative use. It contributes to the development of atomic power engineering in lots of countries, to exchange of scientific-technical information and resolves the tasks in connection with environmental protection", writes Igor Melnikov, PRAVDA's correspondent in Vienna. Commenting on the results of the extraordinary session of the Board of Governors of IAEA, Melnikov notes that increasing significance among various aspects in the activity of the agency is assumed by efforts to prevent the spread of the nuclear weapons, which are directly connected with the strengthening of peace and security and reducing the threat of a nuclear war. The control system exercised by IAEA under the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, makes it possible to watch over the production of fissionable material and not to allow their transfer from peaceful production to war production. This system is sufficiently effective, and at the same time fully accords with the sovereign rights of states.

"There are, however, impediments to the treaty becoming a universal instrument of international non-proliferation policy," the correspondent stresses. A source of much concern is, in particular, the stand of non-nuclear states--members of the European Atomic Energy Community (EUROATOM). Using the method of procrastination for a long time already, it prevents in every way possible a practical imposition of effective control by the agency on their atomic industry. In doing so, representatives of EUROATOM are seeking special privileges for them.

The latest session of the Board of Governors discussed these facts running counter to the treaty on non-proliferation, and placed on record that an overwhelming majority of IAEA member-states resolutely declare against this stand of EUROATOM. The session demanded that non-nuclear countries of the community strictly abide by their commitments as regards the treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and accept IAEA's control at the earliest date on all of its nuclear plants.

These demands, the PRAVDA correspondent writes in conclusion, are becoming particularly topical on the eve of the special session on disarmament of the U.N. General Assembly.

WIDF PRESIDENT CALLS FOR WORLD DISARMAMENT

LD151419 Moscow TASS in English 1415 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 15, TASS--"Discontinuance of the arms race, liquidation of the world war danger and achievement of disarmament are our most urgent tasks of decisive importance for the implementation of the demands of women for the establishment of genuine equality, liquidation of discrimination," it was stated here by Frieda Brown, president of the World [as received] International Democratic Federation (WIDF). She took the floor at the session of the WIDF Council which opened in Moscow today. "We believe," Frieda Brown said, "that the World International Democratic Federation can make its special contribution to the struggle for peace because it united in its ranks the representatives of all the continents of the world."

Statements to the effect that the Soviet Union allegedly threatens world peace and that the other countries should therefore display vigilance and arm themselves, the WIDF president stated, are being spread to allow the circles, coming out for the arms race and making fabulous profits on their immoral arms trade, to create an atmosphere of tension.

"Such statements are designed," she said, "to sow fear among the peoples and to make them reconcile themselves to the growing burden of the military spending from which their living standards are suffering."

"Your national organizations are called upon to play an important role in exposing this lie, in explaining the consistent and patient policy of the USSR and other countries of the socialist community, which have no monopolies making profits from the manufacture of arms, and where every effort is being exerted to ensure the welfare of the people," Frieda Brown stated.

During my numerous trips to the USSR I had witnessed only manifestations of the desire for peace," she said. Poetry, songs and symphonies are being devoted here to this subject. "Peace to the world"--these words are always pronounced and heartily cherished by the Soviet people. "And this is not surprising if we recall that twenty million Soviet people had perished during the Second World War and a tremendous material damage was inflicted upon the country."

"The citizens of the USSR and other countries of the socialist community are busy building socialism in their own countries, promoting cooperation and upholding the principles of peaceful coexistence with all the other countries," Frieda Brown stressed.

ECONOMIC COMMITTEE OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENDS DEBATES

Socialist States Issue Statement

LD1214102Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0838 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] New York--A joint statement distributed here by the delegations of the USSR, the Belorussian SSR, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukrainian SSR and Czechoslovakia, which are participating in the work of the Economic Committee of the UN General Assembly, confirms the willingness of the socialist countries to help the developing states in every way in strengthening their economic independence. The socialist countries regard political support for the program proposed by the developing countries for a new international economic order as one of their main tasks in participating in the committee's work. This reflects the desire of the developing countries to spread the liquidation of colonialism to the economic sphere and create favorable conditions for them to overcome their economic backwardness.

The basis of this process is the developing countries implementation of progressive socioeconomic transformations, shifting the stress in developing industry to the state sector, eliminating backward forms of land holding and nationalizing foreign enterprises. The socialist countries not only adopt an understanding attitude toward the struggle of the developing countries to implement these progressive measures, but also provide them with all kinds of support, and will continue to do so.

The strategy of the socialist states in economic cooperation with the developing countries, the statement stresses, remains unchanged. Its main aim is to assist them, taking into account local conditions, in solving their economic development problems and consolidating their economic independence.

Debates End

LD151506Y Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 15, TASS--Peace, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, respect for the independence and territorial integrity of states, mutual cooperation and equality were discussed in the course of the debate of many days, which wound up here, of the Economic Committee of the U.N. General Assembly.

During the debate, representatives of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, all the peace forces stressed that the most topical line for peace and peaceful relations among nations, which is directly linked with the economic development issues, is the taking of resolute steps for curbing the arms race and for a changeover to disarmament. Particular emphasis was laid at the committee session on the fact that the first ever convocation of a session on disarmament of the U.N. General Assembly specially devoted to the limitation of arms and to disarmament convincingly shows that the necessity of resolving these burning problems is felt by all peoples and recognized by the governments of most of countries.

Participants in the debate highly evaluated the joint statement by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, which reaffirmed the sentiments of international solidarity with the struggle of the developing countries, that shattered the fetters of colonialism, for strengthening their national independence.

Representatives of the socialist countries firmly declared in the course of the committee session their full understanding of the wide program of measures reflecting the and long-term interests of the developing countries in their struggle for restructuring internal economic relations, support for its principled anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist trend.

The committee session, said Soviet representative Yevgeniy Makeyev, summing up the results of debate, has once again shown that an overwhelming majority of the U.N. member countries, above all socialist, non-aligned and developing states, are profoundly interested in strengthening international peace and security, in mankind's economic and social progress.

UN TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL BEGINS DISCUSSION OF MICRONESIA

LD161442Y Moscow TASS in English 1101 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 16, TASS--The United Nations Trusteeship Council opened a discussion of the future status of Micronesia, a United Nations Trust Territory administered by the United States. Micronesia includes the Caroline, Marshall and Mariana islands in the western Pacific.

United Nations resolutions on Micronesia unequivocally obligate the United States administration to promote the attainment of self-government and independence of that trust territory. That is why on the agenda of the Trusteeship Council the main item is the safeguarding of self-government and independence to Micronesia in conformity with the United Nations Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

United Nations quarters are expressing growing anxiety over United States attempts in defiance of generally accepted rules of international law and the United Nations Charter to assume control of the trusteeship territory of the Pacific Islands and to use it as a major strategic place d'armes for the Pentagon. The international community vigorously demands that Micronesia be granted the genuine right to self-determination and independence in the spirit of the historic United Nations declaration on decolonization.

United Nations quarters are also firmly convinced that the United Nations Security Council must without fail take part in a solution to the problem of the future status of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Speaking at the meeting of the council, Carlos Sablam Camacho, the commissioner of the Mariana Islands, emphasized that the history of (?colonization) of Micronesia was the history of an oppressed people. Throughout centuries, he said, the indigenous inhabitants of the territory were subjected to brutal exploitation, manhandling, humiliation, were the victims of a veritable policy of genocide. The population of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, however, he said, was firmly resolved now to put an end for good to the long and sinister epoch of colonialism and to gain genuine self-determination and independence.

UN ANTIAPARTHEID BODY SCORES RACIST REGIMES, BACKERS

LD161036Y Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 16, TASS--The overwhelming majority of the United Nations member-states strongly condemn the policy of the imperialist and reactionary forces in the African Continent aimed at perpetuating the colonial-racialist regimes in this part of the globe. World public opinion is greatly incensed, specifically, by the attempts of some Western powers, primarily the United States, to come out in behalf of the racialist regimes of the Republic of South Africa and Rhodesia, which do not stop their outrageous acts of aggression against the neighbouring countries.

The policy of the forces of international imperialism, condoning the criminal regimes of apartheid, was sharply criticized at the meeting of the special U.N. Anti-Apartheid Committee which is now under way here. The United States, it was pointed out by Leslie Harriman, chairman of the U.N. committee and permanent representative of Nigeria on the United Nations, bears great responsibility for the developments in the southern part of Africa, and past U.S. actions are hardly to its credit. Now that the Vorster regime brazenly perpetrates massacres in South Africa, as well as criminal acts of aggression against other states, particularly Angola, half measures will only encourage its sinister plans, Harriman said. This is why we believe that the entire blame for the criminal acts of aggression against Angola and other African states rests, primarily, with those who cooperate with the apartheid regime.

In the unanimously approved resoltuion the special committee stressed that the continuing unwillingness of the Western powers, particularly permanent members of the Security Council--USA, Britain and France--to take resolute measures, clearly required by the United Nations Charter, encourages the apartheid regime to continue its criminal course.

As long as the Western powers continue their cooperation with the apartheid regime, the resolution points out, there will be the danger that the conflict in South Africa shall spread still further.

Today, nobody has any doubts concerning the true reasons of the outrageous behaviour of the South African racialists and their open challenge to the United Nations. Definite imperialist circles of the West, which are striving to perpetuate the colonial racialist regimes in South Africa, are constantly expanding cooperation with the racialists, it was stated by Vladimir Martynenko, permanent representative of the Ukraine in the United Nations. It is the duty of the U.N. special Anti-Apartheid Committee to promote resolute and effective measures against the apartheid regime.

WALDHEIM REPORTS ON REGIONAL ASPECTS OF DISARMAMENT

LD170902Y Moscow TASS in English 0742 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 17, TASS--On the eve of the U.N. General Assembly's special session on disarmament, a report of U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim was issued here. The report sets out the opinions and proposals by U.N. member nations on regional aspects of disarmament.

The Soviet Union proceeds from the understanding that regional measures of detente in the military field and disarmament measures may make a substantial contribution to the cause of curbing the arms race and achieving disarmament first of all in those areas where military confrontation is particularly great.

A practical implementation of measures of military detente and disarmament in the European Continent would be of particular importance.

UNIDO COUNCIL SESSION IN VIENNA ENDS WORK

LD162050Y Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Vienna, May 16 TASS--The tenth session of the Permanent Committee of the Council of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) closed in Vienna's Hofburg Palace. The session was attended by delegations from more than 40 countries.

The delegates to the session discussed the report of the UNIDO executive director on the organization's activity in 1977, a programme for UNIDO's activity in 1980-1981 and a plan for UNIDO activity in 1980-1983 and approved them.

In spite of opposition from a number of Western states, the Permanent Committee approved the granting of technical aid to the people of Namibia and the Arab people of Palestine. The document adopted notes that this aid is to be granted only in consultation respectively with SWAPO and PLO, which are the sole legitimate representatives of their peoples.

NONALIGNED COORDINATION BUREAU SESSION DISCUSSES TASKS

LD161840Y Moscow TASS in English 1805 GMT 16 May 78 LD

["For Strengthening Unity and Solidarity"--TASS headline]

[Text] Havana, May 16 TASS--The sixth session of the Coordination Bureau of Non-alined Countries, which opened in the Cuban capital is to discuss important political and economic issues of the present-day international situation.

The delegates to the session are to examine the course of implementation of the agreements and decisions taken at the fifth summit conference of non-alined countries, which was held in Colombo, are to formulate main recommendations to heads of their states and governments, which will be considered in the preparation of their speeches for the sixth non-alined summit conference scheduled to be held in Havana next year. One of the main aspects in examining economic issues at the session will be an analysis of the course of implementation of the programme for cooperation between non-aligned and other developing countries in various fields of economy. Thus, in particular, it is planned to make a deep analysis of the situation in connection with the growth of the foreign debt of the developing countries, which has reached a total of 300 billion dollars. Among political aspects, the session will devote its main attention above all to subjects in connection with decolonisation, struggle against racialism and racial discrimination, strengthening of anti-imperialist solidarity, struggle for freedom and independence, to an analysis of the situation, which has taken shape in South Africa, in Cyprus and the Middle East.

The delegates to the session are also to draw up at their meeting in Havana a general strategy of actions at the special session on disarmament of the U.N. General Assembly. In the course of the plenary meeting of the first day of work of the session of the Coordination Bureau of Nonalined Countries, which is so far being held at the level of experts, an agenda was adopted including an official ceremony of opening the session at ministerial level.

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE SESSION OPENS IN ATHENS

LD162158Y Moscow TASS in English 1737 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Athens, May 16 TASS--(TASS special correspondent Aleksandr Yermakov). The 80th session of the International Olympic Committee opened today here, in the land where Olympic games were held many centuries ago and where the first contemporary Olympics were held in 1896. There are over 50 items on the session's agenda. Much interest is shown in the report of the organizing committee of the Moscow Olympics that will be delivered on May 19 by the delegation headed by deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Chairman of the Organizing Committee Ignatiy Novikov. The participants in the session are offered three films about the preparation for the Olympics, about Moscow and Tallinn, and wide development of sports in the USSR.

The afternoon on May 16, the guests went to the stadium where the first contemporary Olympics were held. The participants in the session were welcomed by President of Greece Konstantinos Tsatsos and by President of the National Olympic Committee of Greece Yeoriy Atanassiades. President of the IOC Lord Killanin spoke about the tasks of the session.

In the morning, members of the IOC, heads of federations, journalists who arrived for the session saw expositions of the cities that made applications to host the 1984 winter Olympics--Goeteborg, Sapporo, Sarajevo. But contrary to tradition, there was no exhibition of Los Angeles, that is so far the sole candidate to host the 1984 summer Olympics. It is not yet certain that Los Angeles will be the venue of the summer Olympics. A number of answers from Los Angeles to the IOC questionnaire are nothing else but an attempt to dictate its terms. This is pointed out by members of the IOC and leaders of the international sports federations who held meetings in Athens before the session. It is not accidental that president of the IOC Lord Killanin held talks with representatives of cities where summer Olympics were already held--Munich, Montreal and Mexico City, so as to have "reserve" venues.

U.S. AIRCRAFT DEAL FORMS TRIPARTITE MIDEAST AXIS

LD161826Y Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 16 May 78 LD

["Contrary to the Interests of Peace in the Middle East"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, May 16, TASS--TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports: After stormy debates, the U.S. Senate has turned down by a majority vote of 55 against 43 [as received] the resolution suggesting that the government should renounce its plan to sell warplanes to three Middle Eastern countries--Israel, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Thereby, the American Senate has given the "green light" to a new stage of the arms race in this explosive region of the world.

According to the plan, which the administration submitted to the Congress, Israel will receive fifteen F-15 and 75 F-16 aircraft, Saudi Arabia--sixty F-15 planes and Egypt--fifty secondgrade F-5 fighters. Furthermore, the administration promised to deliver to Israel within the next few years another twenty F-15 warplanes and to consider in a "favourable light" its request for new deliveries of planes and other armaments.

Delivery of 200 warplanes to the three countries will cost 4,800 million dollars. The American aircraft-building concerns, primarily the McDonnell-Douglas corporation, General Dynamics corporation and the Northrop corporation, will receive huge profits from these orders. As a result of the delivery of warplanes to the Middle East, the total sum of American arms sales abroad, as estimated by Pentagon specialists, will reach next year 13,500 million dollars despite the election promises of President J. Carter to cut the export of American arms, primarily to the Middle East.

Discussion by the Congress of the package deal of aircraft has shown that the United States intends to go on adhering in the Middle East to the line of supporting in every possible way the regimes that suit it, of expanding military aid to the Israeli aggressors, of delivering arms and supplies to the reactionary states that are striving to split the front of the Arab nations, of suppressing the liberation struggle of the peoples of the Middle East and Africa.

As pointed out by local commentators, the administration's stubborn effort to push this deal through the Congress shows that the United States, alongside with the Washington-Tel Aviv axis, is now knocking together a parallel Washington-Cairo-ar-Riyad axis to combat the progressive states and the national liberation movements.

Arms Sales Increase Tension

LD162025Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program, introduced by Valeriy Kosovan]

[Text] U.S. President Carter said that he was deeply satisfied with the Senate decision to approve the sale of a large number of U.S. fighter aircraft to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia for $4.8 billion.

The Carter administration forcefully pressed for this deal by portraying it as a contribution to a settlement of the Middle East crisis. It did not conceal its primary goal of rearming Israel, which will receive 90 modern aircraft out of the 200 (?earmarked) for sale. Military supplies to Cairo and Riyadh are meant to show Washington's concern for its Arab allies.

The Senate approval essentially guarantees the aircraft deliveries. However, not all the U.S. legislators support the government's position. According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS, William Brock, chairman of the Republican Party National Committee, said that the Senate approval will lead to increased tension in the Middle East.

U.S. SECRETARY BERGLAND INTERVIEWED BY MOSCOW RADIO

LD170748Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] The 17-member party of the United States secretary of agriculture, Robert Bergland, has completed its 7-day official visit to the USSR. Mr Bergland is the first United States agricultural secretary to have come here since 1972. He had a series of talks with top officials at the Soviet Ministry of Agriculture and he was received by Prime Minister Aleksey Kosygin. They discussed matters relating to Soviet-American cooperation in science, economy and the protection of the environment. Secretary Bergland also visited several agricultural areas and research institutions in various parts of the USSR. Yesterday, he was shown a stud farm in Uspenskoye, near Moscow, where our reporter Vadin (Putinov) made the following recording: [begin recording]

[Question] Mr Secretary, what were the highlights of your visit to the Soviet Union?

[Answer] Well, I was particularly impressed with the modern methods employed in agriculture throughout the Soviet Union. I was, of course, very interested in the new lands about which we've heard so much, and I saw the finest in management of the livestock enterprises and it compares favorably with any I've seen anywhere in the world.

[Question] In what terms can (?you) describe as the relationship that you've established here with people from the Ministry of Agriculture of the USSR?

[Answer] Well, the ladies and gentlemen of the ministry and the people of the Soviet Union have been most cordial, most friendly. Everywhere we've been we've been treated with the utmost courtesy and respect, and we've seen everything we came to see. I couldn't have been better treated.

[Question] What have you seen actually here, some of the interesting points of your tour?

[Answer] Well, probably the most interesting was the new lands because we had heard so much about that area, and it is much like the western, the northern and western part of the United States and western Canada. We have had a very fine exchange of scientific information in agriculture going on with the Soviet Union and the people of the United States now for quite a number of years, and we've been most pleased with this exchange. The United States and the Soviet Union share together a very heavy burden in that we are the two world's leading food producers and the food needs of this world will perhaps double in the next 30 or 40 years, and the responsibility will fall upon the scientists and the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States to show the way to other countries in this world how to increase food production. And so we think it is very important, and I think my trip to the Soviet Union has cemented this scientific relationship that we think will expand as time goes on.

[Question] How do you see, how do you view, development of Soviet-American agricultural relations in the general context of Soviet-American relations?

[Answer] Excellent. Scientists and program policy makers in the Soviet Union and the United States are in agreement on all basic major policy. We have found very excellent scientific achievement in the Soviet Union in the area of agriculture. American scientists and Soviet scientists have exchanged views and ideas for a good long time. We hope to, (?and) as a matter of fact I am now confident that we will build upon this relationship because the sciences and agriculture today are very complicated and it takes the very best minds in the entire world, and they are found in the Soviet Union and in the United States.

[Question] And how do you think American farmers feel about this relationship?

[Answer] Excited. I am an American farmer and I deal with American farmers all the time, and American farmers have asked me to look in particular at agriculture in the Soviet Union and I'm going to report back what I have found. I have found a friendly people, I have found an interesting people, I have found a very productive agriculture. And the more exchanges of these sorts we have, the better off all the world will be. [end recording]

That was the United States Agricultural Secretary Robert Bergland speaking about his visit to the USSR. The United States Department of Agriculture delegation also included Robert (Ewer), a former agricultural attache to the USSR, now the department's European area officer, and a special consultant to the secretary. He said: [begin recording]

[Ewer] The visit has been doing very well. It is a tightly programmed visit so I think our people get a little tired at times, but I can tell by what they say and how they look and now they act that they are enjoying the visit very much.

[Question] Did you notice any changes for this period of time?

[Answer] Yes, various obvious developments in agriculture. There is more building in the countryside. There are more largescale livestock complexes in each part of the country that we visited. There is more machinery that we see. The livestock that we have seen indicates that your country is continuing to make progress in improving breeds of cattle and breeds of hogs. So we hope that one of the outcomes of this visit will be further cooperation in several areas including working to improve food reserves for the world and other food-related matters. We are trying to learn from each other in certain specific areas, not only in crop production but also in livestock production. [end recording]

Robert (Ewer), a former United States attache to the USSR. Speaking about the earlier years, Mr (Ewer) meant the time when the first United States agricultural delegation came to the USSR. That was in 1955. And since then there have been many encouraging developments in the area of Soviet-American agricultural cooperation. Today, one can hardly doubt the mutually advantageous character of these ties as one cannot but agree with the following statement made by former United States Agricultural Secretary Earl Butz. Answering the question: Isn't it evil to be selling grain to those communist Russians, he replied: Far better we exchange bushels with them than bullets. So there's every hope that this trend will continue, and the recent visit to the USSR by a United States Department of Agriculture delegation was a major step forward in this direction.

U.S. COALITION CONDEMNS U.S. ROLE IN SOUTH AFRICA

LD162302Y Moscow TASS in English 2203 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 16, TASS--TASS correspondent Mikhail Beglov reports:

While hypocritically speaking at length on the defence of human rights abroad, the USA is in fact the main stand-by for reactionary regimes in the south of Africa. A statement to this effect was made at a press-conference here by representatives of a massive public organization of the United States--the National Coalition To Support African Liberation. It affiliates various trade unions, youth and religious organizations as well as a number of noted American public figures and politicians, including R. Dellums, member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Professor Edwards of California University and others.

The USA, says the statement by the coalition, gives widest support to repressive regimes in the South African republic and Rhodesia. Direct capital investments alone of U.S. corporations in that region have reached four billion dollars. Billions of dollars are granted to Pretoria and Salisbury in bank loans. At the same time, the appeal stresses, the U.S. administration is trying to strengthen the apartheid system in Rhodesia politically by paving the ground for establishing a puppet regime there.

The national coalition urged American public to intensify the struggle against the cooperation of the United States with repressive regimes in the south of Africa. The start of a wide campaign of protest in the United States under the slogan "for an end to apartheid" for ending economic support for the regimes in the south of Africa was announced at the press conference. The campaign will be climaxed by a massive demonstration and public meeting scheduled in the American capital for May 20. They are timed to the international day for the liberation of Africa.

The Americans, stresses the appeal by the national coalition, must resolutely demand that official Washington end all cooperation with Pretoria and Salisbury including in the economic and military areas.

TASS VIEWS CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST NEUTRON BOMB

LD161000Y Moscow TASS in English 0935 GMT 16 May 78 LD

["Against Allocations for Neutron Weapon"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, May 16, TASS--The Pentagon's stubborn unwillingness to renounce its plans to develop the neutron weapon seriously alarms sober-minded political leaders in the United States.

A group of 22 members of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress has joined the protests of American and world public opinion against the new type of mass annihilation weapon. They have drawn up and submitted for the House's consideration a legislative proposal to prohibit the financing of the program for the manufacture and development of the neutron bomb. The proposal was submitted in the form of an amendment on the budget bill of the U.S. Department of Energetics [energy] concealed within which are funds for the creation of the neutron weapon.

Simultaneously with this, the authors of the initiative addressed a letter to every legislator urging them to back their effort aimed at thwarting the Pentagon's sinister intentions. The letter says that the presidential decision to defer the production of the neutron bomb has not changed the fact that the government is demanding from the House of Representatives allocations on a weapon which might bring America to the brink of a nuclear catastrophe. [The congressmen stressed that the neutron bomb was a weapon that would whip up the nuclear arms race, would tend to proliferate nuclear weapons,] would increase the probability of a nuclear war.

The only way to avert the danger with which the production of the neutron bomb is fraught is to refuse allocations for this purpose, the congressmen write. They call on the legislators in their letter to join them in voting against a weapon that threatens the future of mankind.

SOVIET DOCTOR SCORES PRESS COVERAGE OF AILING INFANT

LD162024Y Moscow TASS in English 2000 GMT 16 May 78 LD

["Who Needed This Hullabaloo?"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--TASS correspondent Anna Grigoryeva writes: The name of Yevgeniya Kats, a seven-month old Soviet girl, can be seen more frequently in pages of American bourgeois press in recent days. Why the U.S. bourgeois press has taken interest in baby Yevgeniya, or Jessica as she is called in the United States? It turns out, the newspaper Washington STAR asserts, that in the USSR this girl with a grave illness "is not being treated properly", but the American doctors are ready to save her life. But for the purpose of Yevgeniya should, together with her parents, leave the motherland for the United States.

The content of the article, printed in the newspaper Washington STAR, has been made known to Zinoviy Svirskiy, chief of a ward of the First Moscow City Clinic--a hospital for children where Yevgeniya underwent medical treatment, and we asked him to give his opinion on the article.

"Yevgeniya Kats really stayed in our clinic for a few months said Zinoviy Svirskiy. Her illness is a grave one. Without delving into medical details, I shall say that the girl suffers from congenital intestine pathology and functional insufficiency of fermental systems. We, doctors, have made our utmost to help this small patient. The most up-to-date medicines were used for the purpose, prominent specialists, professors gathered at Yevgeniya's bedside more than once for consultations. The treatment has not been completed. Yevgeniya's illness may become more complicated, but by now her condition has improved. She was discharged from the hospital and is now home with her parents. Doctors are keeping a watchful eye over the patient, systematically visit her. The necessary medicines are prescribed for her. It is needless to say that Yevgeniya Kats has been receiving medical treatment free of charge, at the expense of the state.

This is the factual side of the matter. As a doctor, I have been surprised by, to put it mildly, incompetence of the article that appeared in the newspaper Washington STAR. What are the grounds for the newspaper Washington STAR to assert, having no notion of the character and complexity of the girl's illness, that in the Soviet Union she "is not treated properly", but in America she would be cured right away? We respect American medical men, appreciate their accomplishments in pediatry. But the allegations made by the Washington STAR, which has nothing to do with medicine, are not prompted by concern for the sick child, but by quite other motives.

It is difficult to qualify the hullabaloo raised around Yevgeniya Kats by some U.S. (?bourgeois) mass media, otherwise but [as] an attempt to cast aspersions on Soviet medicine, said Zinoviy Svirskiy. This hullabaloo is, if we are to speak openly, nothing but blasphemy, since the point in question is, on the one hand, a child with a grave illness and on the other hand--a group of enthusiasts, doctors who spare no effort to see the girl healthy again. But some people in the United States seemingly do not disdain to use anything when the aim is to smear Soviet medical science."

PRC PRECONDITIONS BLOCK RESOLUTION OF BORDER DISPUTE

OW1611 30Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 0900 GMT 14 May 78 OW

[Unattributed commentary: "A Consistent Policy Based on Principles"]

[Text] In line with Lenin's peace-loving foreign policy, the Soviet Union has always been consistent in its policy toward Soviet-Chinese relations--a policy based on principles. This policy originates from a sincere desire to improve and normalize Soviet-Chinese relations and is based on the long-term interests of the people of the two countries and of the socialist cause. Normalized relations are certainly in the interests of the people in the two countries, in the Far East and Asia, and throughout the world.

As early as 1972, after considering the stand taken by the Chinese side, the Soviet Union stated that bilateral relations should be based on the principle of peaceful coexistence. [words indistinct] the 24th and 25th CPSU congresses reiterated the principles that would bring about normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations in accordance with the desires of the people of the two countries. On 24 February this year, the Soviet side suggested that the two countries issue a joint statement on the principles governing relations between them, that is, both sides should base their relations on peaceful coexistence and should take into account each other's interests without preconditions.

Unfortunately, the Peking leadership again took a negative stance and rejected the proposal, as it did on many previous occasions. It again put forward unacceptable conditions for resolving the border questions. It used previous preconditions to conceal its reluctance to discuss normalized relations. Moreover, its rejection of the new Soviet proposal signaled the start of a new anti-Soviet movement.

Why does the Chinese leadership want a turning point in Sino-Soviet relations to come about only if the border issues are resolved in line with its own preconditions? The answer is obvious: The unacceptable preconditions advanced by the Chinese leadership for resolving the border issues require that the Soviet Union make "unilateral concessions"--this means a complete revision of the Sino-Soviet boundary. These preconditions will only lead Sino-Soviet relations into a dead end and clear the way for China's continuation of its anti-Soviet policy.

Peking's propaganda attempts to use lies and slanders to alienate the Chinese people from the Soviet Union. It tries to promote national chauvinism and anti-Sovietism among the Chinese people by alleging that there is a "threat from the north," meaning a "threat from the Soviet Union."

In March this year, in his meeting with the vice chairman of the FRG's Christian Democratic Union-Christian Social Union parliamentary group, Teng Hsiao-ping again repeated the nonsense about the "threat from the Soviet Union," alleging that the "threat" is directed against China, but this fabrication by Peking failed to win the support of the people. [words indistinct] The Soviet Union has always pursued a principled policy toward China. It must be pointed out that in the early 1970's, the Soviet Union suggested that China sign an agreement on normalizing relations between the two countries. The agreement forbids the use of force, preparations for launching a war on the other side, and the dissemination of war propaganda. In 1971, the Soviet Government proposed to the Chinese Government that a treaty be signed to prohibit the use of force, stipulating in clear terms that the two countries will not use force and any type of weapon--including conventional weapons, missiles, and nuclear weapons--against each other. Can these proposals by the Soviet Union be considered aggressive?

It should be pointed out that for many years the Soviet Union advanced proposals to normalize Soviet-Chinese relations. The Chinese side either rejected these proposals or refused to reply. Facts show that the present Peking leadership is engaged in double-dealing tactics. On the one hand, China spreads demagogic propaganda that it is "willing to base Sino-Soviet relations on the principle of peaceful coexistence." On the other hand, China attempts to unite all reactionary imperialist forces into an international united front for struggling against the Soviet Union so that China can struggle against the Soviet Union and make territorial claims against it.

Although the Soviet Union has rejected the Peking authorities' despicable stand it (?will continue efforts to improve and normalize relations between the two countries).

PRC STATEMENT ON USSR 'MISREPRESENTATION' OF INCURSION

For the Peking NCNA English text of an "oral statement" delivered by PRC Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chang to Soviet Ambassador V.S. Tolstikov in Peking on 17 May, see the International Affairs section of the 17 May People's Republic of China DAILY REPORT.

NEW USSR AMBASSADOR TO POLAND APPOINTED

LD161702Y Moscow TASS in English 1647 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--Boris Aristov has been appointed USSR ambassador in Poland. He was born in 1925. Boris Aristov held a number of responsible party and government posts. Lately he was first secretary of the Leningrad City CPSU Committee. Boris Aristov is a member of the CPSU Central Committee and a deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Stanislav Pilotovich has been relieves of his duties of USSR ambassador in Poland in connection with another appointment.

ADDITION TO ITEM ON USTINOV'S DEPARTURE TO HUNGARY

The following addition to the item entitled "Defense Minister Ustinov Leaves on Hungarian Visit," published in the 15 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, p D 2, is taken from the 16 May KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, page 1:

At Vnukovo Airport Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov and the people accompanying him were seen off by marshals of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, V.G. Kulikov and S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense ministers; USSR deputy defense ministers; other Soviet military leaders and generals and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces. J. Marjai, Hungarian ambassador to the USSR, was among those seeing the delegation off.

DEFENSE MINISTER, USTINOV VISITS HUNGARY

For Budapest Domestic Hungarian and MTI coverage of the visit to Hungary by Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU and USSR minister of defense and his activities, see the Hungary section of the 16 May Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

CSSR'S ROHLICEK, USSR'S ARKHIPOV ADDRESS EXHIBITION

LD161735Y [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1300 GMT on 16 May carried a report from the exhibition "Czechoslovakia Offers" being held in Sokolniki Park in Moscow. The correspondent describes some of the goods exhibited there and says that this is the first time Czechoslovakia has arranged such a large exhibition of consumer goods abroad. Annually Czechoslovakia exports R1 billion-worth of consumer goods to the USSR.

Rudolf Rohlicek, deputy Czechoslovak premier, spoke in Russian about the aim of the exhibition. He said that "this exhibition is a proof of the fact that there are good prerequisites in Czechoslovakia for the implementation of the long-term program of cooperation in the area of consumer goods."

The report continues: "At the solemn opening of the Czechoslovakia Offers exhibition Ivan Vasilyevich Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, spoke. He said:

"This exhibition is held to mark the 30th anniversary of the February victory of the Czechoslovak people over reaction. The Soviet people are happy about the achievements of the fraternal Czechoslovak people and wish them further victories in the building of an advanced socialist society. Trade and economic relations between our countries are developing successfully. In the past 10 years alone the goods turnover between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia has increased almost threefold. The traditional export articles of Czechoslovakia to the Soviet Union are industrial consumer goods. The exhibition will, no doubt, meet with the greatest attention of Muscovites and guests in our capital."

EXERCISES IN CANADA TEST NORAD CONTROL SYSTEM

LD161618Y Moscow TASS in English 1547 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Ottawa, May 16, TASS--The military exercises of the North American Air Defence Command (NORAD) started in the territory of Canada and the United States. Taking part in the exercises are about 13,000 servicemen of both countries and large air forces. According to a NORAD representative, the purpose of the exercises is to check on the functioning of radars, fighter interceptors, missile launches and the NORAD control system.

The agreement on NORAD imposed on Canada at the height of the cold war actually deprived the country of sovereignty over its air space and northern areas. In May, 1975, under the pressure of the public the Canadian Government decided to turn over to the National armed forces the control over the country's airspace that was earlier implemented from the United States territory. The United States also had to withdraw a unit of its strategic aviation from the base at Goose Bay, Ontario.

The actions of the Canadian Government in defence of the country's sovereignty were opposed by Washington. But American generals do not lose the hope that the ally might be brought to its senses. The present exercises clearly are aimed at increasing Canada's role in NORAD.

Sober-minded political leaders and public of Canada demand that Canada should quit NORAD which, in their conviction, serves only the interests of the Pentagon and the military-industrial complex of the United States.

ITALIAN PARLIAMENT PASSES NEW DECREE ON TERRORISM

LD170900Y Moscow TASS in English 0744 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] Rome, May 17, TASS--A vote of confidence in the country's government was brought in in the Chamber of Deputies of Italian Parliament by an overwhelming majority of votes of deputies including communists. The question of vote of confidence was put by Giulio Andreotti, chairman of the Council of Ministers, in connection with the discussion of the government decree on measures to combat terrorism. By voting for confidence in the government, the deputies thereby voted for the government's decree.

NATO ATTEMPTING TO TURN NORWAY INTO FRONTLINE AGAINST USSR

LD161158Y Moscow TASS in English 1124 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--TASS political commentator Yevgeniy Babenko writes: "The Norwegian Army will open fire on the Russians when their infantrymen cross the border on skis or in armoured cars"--this quotation is taken not from yet another cheap anti-Soviet booklet, but from a pretentiously serious article published by the London DAILY TELEGRAPH. The unrestrained fantasy of the author paints the picture of Norway's practically complete disaster due to her "isolation" from the sea by the Soviet Navy.

The question arises: Is it merely the morbid fantasy of certain irresponsible pressmen that is to blame for the fact that the Norwegians, the British and the population of other Western states are regularly receiving ever new portions of obvious misinformation from the DAILY TELEGRAPH?

It has become an axiom very long ago that the Soviet Union did not and does not intend to attack anybody, including Norway. There is not the slightest motive for disseminating mythical variations of "the Russians are coming" tune. However, the clumsy fabrications continue to appear over and over again. This persistent propaganda recidivism is actually a periodic operation aimed at "brainwashing" the Western public with an absolutely obvious goal in view. It is well coordinated by various NATO services.

Let us look into the past: Fabrications about the "intention of the USSR to attack Norway shortly" previously appeared last autumn, exactly when a broad public movement for the country's withdrawal from the NATO spread all over Norway.

The current publication in the British newspaper of the canard concerning the "menace from the East" to the Norwegian fjords is also specially timed. The Norwegian Defence Ministry is now conducting talks with representatives of the Armed Forces of the United States, Canada and Great Britain on the urgent strengthening of the NATO's northern flank. This "strengthening" practically boils down to the following: henceforth the forces of other NATO countries will be able to deploy in Norwegian territory heavy armaments and technique, and also to stage frequent exercises in Norway with their use. Such exercises were formerly held sporadically and the armaments for the NATO troops were delivered temporarily from beyond the ocean.

It is planned to build in Norway airfields for the "frontline stationing" of modern American F-15 fighters and F-111 bombers, which have so far been based in Great Britain. As to the Norwegian Armed Forces, it is planned to equip them with new British helicopters and ground-to-air missiles.

This is what we find in reality behind NATO smoke-screen claims about the "imminent Russian invasion"--the intention to turn the entire territory of Norway into a huge northern NATO proving ground and even into the bloc's "frontline."

There is, however, no doubt that the Norwegian people will this time, too, see through the hackneyed verbal camouflage the danger of such militaristic plans both for the Scandinavian peoples, and for the consolidation of peace on the entire European Continent.

FINLAND PROPOSES NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE IN N. EUROPE

LD131333Y Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 13 May 78 LD

["Important Initiatives"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 13, TASS--TASS political commentator Igor Orlov writes:

Speaking the other day at the Foreign Policy Institute in Stockholm, Finnish President Urho Kaleva Kekkonen stated with good reason that the positive impact of the final act of the Conference on European Security and Cooperation held in Helsinki in 1975 applies to all states of the continent, both big and small. On his part, he called for taking without delay measures for curbing and ending the arms race continuing in the world.

The president did not confine himself to general calls only, but also highly convincingly substantiated the specific and important initiatives of his country. He expressed the view that the Nordic countries should start in their own interests talks on arms control among themselves and jointly with the great powers.

The aim of such talks would be to conclude a special agreement concerning northern Europe, that would shield it from the effect of nuclear strategy on the whole and from new technology of nuclear weapons in particular. Urho Kaleva Kekkonen also reiterated the relevance of the proposal put forward by him as far back as 15 years ago on turning northern Europe into a nuclear-free zone.

Declaring against all that leads to whipping up the arms race, Finland more than once displayed its readiness to do its utmost for contributing towards the process of curbing the race in new types of arms and towards disarmament. Thus, for example, it vigourously opposed plans for the production and deployment of the neutron weapons in Europe and supported the proposal on the holding of talks on mutual renunciation of the production of such weapons.

Finland's peace initiatives directed at declaring northern Europe a nuclear-free zone and ensuring a lasting peace in that area are in accord with the objective of further easing the danger of war in Europe. Therefore, the Soviet Union repeatedly declared its support for these initiatives. It expressed readiness to take part in a constructive discussion of these proposals, to act together with the other nuclear powers as a guarantor of the status of nuclear-free zone in the north of Europe, should the states--possible participants of such a zone--declare their interest in it.

The Soviet Union's stand conforms to its principled line towards lessening the threat of nuclear war, strengthening security in Europe and all over the world.

It is gratifying to note that on the eve of the special session on disarmament of the UN General Assembly scheduled to open in New York on May 23, Finland again comes out with specific and constructive proposals deserving most close attention and support of all, who sincerely strive to strengthen peace and security of peoples.

'BEST FOCUS' NATO AIR MANEUVERS TO BE HELD LATE MAY

LD151541Y Moscow TASS in English 1446 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Oslo, May 15, TASS--Norwegian, Danish, West German, British, Canadian and American air units will be involved in major exercises to be held in Norway in a period from May 26 to June 3, the newspaper ARBEIDERBLADET reports. The exercises, codenamed "Best Focus", are aimed at testing methods of conducting air reconnaissance.

GENEVA MEETING BETWEEN CPSU, SWISS LABOR PARTY HELD

LD161800Y Moscow TASS in English 1705 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, May 16 TASS--The CPSU delegation, headed by secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Ivan Kapitonov, today had a meeting with the General Secretary of the Swiss Party of Labor Armand Magnin, Honorary Chairman of the Party Jean Vincent, member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat Hansjorg Hofer and member of the Political Bureau Jakob Lechleiter.

A comradely exchange of views was held on questions of relations between the two parties and on other topical problems of interest to the CPSU and the Swiss Party of Labor. The meeting passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES SOVIET NEWSMEN

LD162316Y Moscow TASS in English 2230 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Stokcholm, May 16 TASS--Personal contacts and meetings at all levels play a big role in the development of detente, which has good prospects, Swedish Foreign Minister Karin Soder told a group of Soviet newsmen. In this connection the minister noted the great significance of the visit to the FRG of general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev.

Touching upon the Soviet-Swedish relations, Karin Soder pointed out that the two countries are closely cooperating in a number of fields. The minister spoke highly of the activity of the Soviet-Swedish Inter-Governmental Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation.

In connection with the forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union of King Carl 16 Gustaf and the Queen of Sweden, Karin Soder expressed hope that as a result of this visit Sweden and the Soviet Union will learn more about each other.

The group of Soviet newsmen was also received by Swedish Minister of Commerce Staffan Burenstam Linder: He noted that Swedish business circles are interested in a broadening of trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union. The minister of trade said that he had been greatly impressed by the Soviet Union's successes, which he saw during his recent tour of the USSR.

BREZHNEV CABLES CONGRATULATIONS TO KING OF SWEDEN

LD152000Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent a telegram to the King of Sweden, Gustav Carl XVI, in which he conveyed his congratulations in connection with the country's national holiday, as well as wishes for the success and well-being of the people of friendly Sweden.

In his reply telegram the King of Sweden expressed his sincere gratitude for the congratulations.

BREZHNEV SENDS GREETINGS TO QUEEN JULIANA OF NETHERLANDS

LD121904Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1821 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 12th May, (TASS)--Leonid Brezhnev has sent Queen Juliana of the Netherlands a telegram in which he has conveyed sincere congratulations to the people of the Netherlands in connection with the country's national festival and also has conveyed wishes for peace and progress. The Queen has expressed thanks for the warm congratulations.

BRIEFS

ILO HEAD LEAVES--Moscow, 16 May--Francis Blanchard, director-general of the International Labor Organization, left Moscow today for Switzerland. During his visit the gues' acquainted himself with the achievements and experience of the USSR in economic and social-cultural development and visited Uzbekistan (Central Asia). [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0755 GMT 16 May 78 LD]

COOPERATION WITH UK--An agreement on cooperation between the Union of Soviet Socieities for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the USSR-Great Britain Society and the Great-Britain-USSR Association has been signed in London. The agreement foresees further development of cooperation between representatives of literature and art, theater and music, cinema and education of the Soviet Union and Britain. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 16 May 78 LD]

U.S. PLANE DEAL FURTHER OBSTRUCTS MIDEAST SETTLEMENT

LD161532Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1230 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Behind the Scenes of the Package Deal"]

[Text] By majority vote, the U.S. Senate has approved the so-called package deal on the sale of warplanes to Israel, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. According to the latest conditions of the deal, estimated to be worth $6 billion, Israel will get 90 of America's newest jets, with a promise that it will get an additional 20 more, making a total of 110 planes for Israel. Saudi Arabia will receive 60 planes, while Egypt will be buying 50 outdated planes.

On the eve of the Senate debates, a number of American commentators expressed doubt as to whether the Senate would approve the deal. They based this view on the assumption that the Zionist lobby in the Senate would block the vote. However, many senators with close links to Israel voted for the package deal. Why did they do this?

First and foremost, one should say that approval of the package deal strengthens Tel Aviv's military position. This is clearly indicated by the quantity and type of planes to be supplied to Israel. Furthermore, one can assume that the decision of the U.S. Senate was influenced considerably by King Khalid's letter to President Carter, the contents of which were deliberately disclosed. The letter emphasized that the American planes in question are not at all needed to attack Israel; Saudi Arabia needs them in order to fight the communist tide, as the king put it, and to defend Saudi Arabia's widespread oilfields against Arab opponents such as Iraq, the PDRY and Libya, as the letter said.

Egypt adopted a similar attitude in this respect. Statements by the Egyptian leadership that have become widely known say Egypt never again will fight Israel. Similarly, the pledges by this leadership that Cairo is an enthusiastic supporter of an American-style peace have also become well known. Such a peace is not only likely to secure more concessions for Israel but also would condone efforts by the Israeli aggressors to reap the fruits of their aggression.

So, one can confidently say that the deal endorsed by the U.S. Senate on the one hand helps consolidate Israel's military superiority and, on the other, paves the way for Saudi and Egyptian policies to be linked more closely to American Middle East policy.

All of this is a bad omen for the future, as it further obstructs a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East which would be in the interests of all peoples and which would include a solution to the Palestinian question. It also opens a new page in the arms race.

SORDID ROLE BEING PLAYED BY SAUDI RULERS EXPLORED

LD162234Y Moscow TASS in English 2015 GMT 16 May 78 LD

["Under Cover of Anticommunism"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 16 TASS--TASS observer Sergey Stoklitskiy writes: Saudi Arabia's long-standing need for aircraft has become a pressing necessity because of the presently growing communist expansion in the region, wrote King Khaild of Saudi Arabia to U.S. President Carter. The text of the letter was circulated the other day by the U.S. State Department.

The Saudi regime has recourse to the "communist threat" allegation each time when it tries to substantiate the "pressing need" for fresh arms purchases and it, as facts have shown, has an irresistible effect on certain American circles.

It is an open secret today what sordid role is played by the Saudi rulers, who are trying to knock together in the Persian Gulf zone a so-called security alliance on the basis of conservative forces and under their aegis, in destablishing the extremely tense, as it is, situation in that area. The Beirut newspaper AS-SAFIR recently noted that the bloc is spearheaded against the progressive regimes, against those who come out for the unity of the Arab nations.

The ambitions of the Saudi feudals also extend outside the Middle East region. By supplying arms and ammunitions to the attacking side in the course of the Somali-Ethiopian armed conflict Riyadh aimed above all against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of progressive Ethiopia. Now that the intervention against Ethiopia has proved to be a failure, Saudi Arabia and its satellites, as the Johannesburg newspaper STAR reported, have undertaken to pay for the upkeep of the mercenaries struggling against the sovereignty of independent Angola.

Riyadh is attacking the oil policy of young developing states. The West is trying with the aid of Saudi Arabia, this "Trojan horse" of the imperialist powers in the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) to split the unity of this organization and take the edge off the struggle of the oil-producing countries for full and effective possession of their natural wealth.

By pursuing this policy, the Saudi rulers hope to galvanize the outdated feudal-monarchic system, to contain the advancement of history and impede the national-liberation movement. And in this, their interests are [word indistinct] close with those of imperialism. It is not by mere chance that the West willingly supplies Riyadh with weapons. The USA alone sold to it during the recent three years arms worth almost six billion dollars.

It is precisely in collusion with imperialism, neocolonialism and local feudal reaction that the real danger to the independence of the peoples in the region lies, a danger which cannot be camouflaged by any verbiage about the alleged "Red expansion".

MOSCOW RADIO CONFERENCE BACKS PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

LD162100Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Aleksandr Timoshkin report on final session of Moscow Radio conference on Palestinian national rights]

[Excerpts] In this final session of the radio forum we will review the results of the forum and adopt a resolution.

I would like to recall that in this radio forum on the guaranteeing of the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, prominent political and social personalities from the Soviet Union and the countries of the Middle East took part.

They included: Vladmir Kudryavtsev, director of the USSR Supreme Soviet, secretary of the Soviet parliamentary group and vice chairman of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee; Prof Igor Blishchenko, secretary of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers; Lt Gen David Dragunskiy of the tank corps, twice Hero of the Soviet Union; Pavel Demchenko, member of the editorial board of PRAVDA, a well-known Soviet journalist who specializes in Middle Eastern affairs; (Abdul Rahman Soltanov), a prominent Soviet diplomat and orientalist, winner of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir Award; Ahmad 'Abd ar-Razzaq, secretary general of the Palestinian students' general federation; Akif [name indistinct], deputy secretary general of the Lebanese Socialist Progressive Party; Walid Sa'b, secretary general of the Lebanese democratic youth federation; Ahmad Latif, first secretary of the Central Council of the Moroccan youth for progress and socialism; and (Yuran Bozhanskiy), secretary general of the Israeli communist youth federation.

On the basis of the statements by participants and the reports received from listeners, we have adopted a resolution. Here is the text:

We participants in the Radio Moscow forum entitled "Guaranteeing the National Rights of the Palestinian Arab People," express decisive support for the struggle of this people who have suffered a great deal in order to establish their legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination and to establish a national independent state. We brand with shame the expansionist aggressive policy of the Zionist circles in Israel, the policy which aims at liquidation of the Palestinian issue and annexation of occupied Palestinian territories. We condemn the policy of the U.S. imperialist circles which render huge amounts of military and economic aid to Israel. Had it not been for this aid, the Zionists would not have been able to violate the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and the rest of the Arab peoples.

We also condemn the suspect rightwing Arab maneuvers being carried out under the guise of negotiations for peace in the Middle East and the capitulationist settlement planned behind the back of the Palestinian Arab people and at their expense. We declare that Egyptian-Israeli talks will only lead to an increase of the complexity of the Middle East situation; these talks motivated the Israeli militarists to carry out aggression against Lebanon. The just solution of the Palestinian issue can only be realized within the framework of a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. More effective as far as realization of peace is concerned is the Geneva peace conference in which all concerned parties, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people, should participate. There is a realistic basis for resumption of the Geneva conference--the Soviet-U.S. declaration on the Middle East issued on 1 October 1977, which reaffirms clearly and precisely the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights. We are confident of the inevitability of the triumph of the Palestinian Arab people's just cause.

ISRAELI AGGRESSIVE POLICY HAS WASHINGTON'S BLESSING

LD160916Y Moscow TASS in English 0700 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 15, TASS--The Israeli hawks are trying to make the best possible use in their interests of the situation in the Middle East favourable to them as a result of Cairo's separatist actions and are speeding up the annexation of the captured Arab lands. As the Israeli radio says, the construction of a network of military highways has been completed on the West Bank of the Jordan River to link the newly established Israeli militarized settlements with the main roads. It has been announced simultaneously that a government committee is examining the question of construction of a new town south of Bethlehem on the occupied West Bank.

Tel Aviv is trying to justify its annexationist policy by the necessity of Israel's "effective defence." As the new chief of the General Staff of the Israeli Armed Forces General Rafael Eytan said the other day, even after peace is established in the Middle East Israel wishes to keep its hold of the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Golan Heights. This stand of Eytan, which is fully shared by Defence Minister 'Ezer Weizman, received unqualified support at the Israeli Cabinet meeting on Sunday. Addressing it Prime Minister Menahem Begin said that Israel does not intend to withdraw from the lands captured from the Arabs, where nearly 100 militarized settlements were established during the years of occupation.

Tel Aviv is continuing its aggressive policy with Washington's approval and blessing This once again has been shown by the recent statement of U.S. President Carter in interview. The head of the U.S. administration made it clear that in pursuing their militaristic policy, the Israeli rulers may fully rely not only on the political support from the USA but also on their military and economic aid, which grows from year to year.

LEBANESE RIGHTISTS' HOPES FOR U.S. INTERVENTION ILLUSORY

LD162130Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic to the Arab World 1630 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] The Lebanese front, which includes Christian rightist forces, has addressed a letter to the U.S. administration, urging it to intervene in Lebanon. Through resounding phrases that urge Washington to protect peace and freedom, the authors of the letter try to remind the U.S. presidency of Lebanon's economic and strategic importance to the United States, should the forces of the Christian right take over political administration of the country. Furthermore, the letter warns the United States that it might lose Lebanon forever if the country follows the path of democratic social changes.

U.S. officials hardly need reminding, since the U.S. imperialist forces of course cannot remain indifferent to the diminishing of Lebanon's ties of subservience to the monopolies of Western banks, nor can the United States approve of the strengthening of the patriotic forces in Lebanon--the forces that demand safeguarding of national independence and consolidation of national sovereignty. Consequently imperialist circles in the United States spare no effort in trying to make the U.S. administration use all its influence and potential in order to prevent this.

What kind of intervention, I wonder, do the leaders of the Christian right expect from the United States? Could they be dreaming of an intervention similar to that of 1958, when the U.S. Marines, at the invitation of Lebanese President Camille Sham'un, landed in Lebanon in order to block the path of the democratic changes in the country? If so, this proves that the leaders of the Christian right have no confidence at all in their own ability to stand up to the increasing movement of the masses in Lebanon, since the majority of Lebanese people believe it is time to establish justice in the political establishments in Lebanese society and to consolidate the country's national independence. The letter was handed to Parker, U.S. ambassador in Beirut. The hopes expressed by the authors of the letter--that direct U.S. intervention would help consolidate the positions of the Christian right--are only illusions. This is because the balance of power in Lebanon today does not make such intervention an easy task, especially since the United States is not prepared to get involved in an international venture which might become another Vietnam war. Furthermore the balance of power in the eastern Mediterranean and the success the policy of detente do not give Western states the chance to embark on military ventures in the Middle East.

PLO OFFICIAL ON TASKS OF DAMASCUS CENTRAL COUNCIL SESSION

LD162128Y Moscow TASS in English 1810 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, May 16, TASS--The recent developments in the Middle East which have been brought about by the continuing defeatist activity of Egyptian President as-Sadat and the Israeli aggression against Lebanon will become the key topic at the session of the Central Council of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, which is to open on May 20 in the Syrian capital. This was announced by the chairman of the National Council of Palestine and the Central Council of the PLO, Al-Fahum. He stressed the need of strengthening the unity of all the detachments of the Palestine resistance movement and noted that the direct dialogue with the enemy, initiated by As-Sadat, inflicts considerable damage to Arab solidarity.

Al-Fahum informed that the coming session will discuss the hostile attitude of the United States towards the whole of the Arab nation and the Arab people of Palestine.

Much attention will be paid to the [words indistinct] of the PLO's ties with socialist and non-aligned states.

EGYPTIAN ECONOMY, CHARGES OF CORRUPTION EXAMINED

LD150740Y Moscow TASS in English 0620 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] London, May 14, TASS--Analysing Egypt's economic situation, the influential newspaper of British business circles FINANCIAL TIMES notes that the lack of settlement of the grave economic problems facing Egypt creates now a direct threat to the As-Sadat regime.

As a result of the "open-doors policy" providing for broad encouragement of foreign capital investments and activity of the local private sector in Egypt's economy, that country's balance of payments is permanently made with alarming deficit, which in its turn is conducive to a growth of the foreign debt, the newspaper writes. Over the period of 1973-1976, imports have trebled, and the annual deficit is now nearly two billion dollars. By the end of last year, debts on medium and long-term loans, to say nothing of the military debts, had topped eight billion dollars by the end of last year. The Egyptian leadership which too eagerly received in 1976 and in early 1977 short term loans at a high interest rate, could save the country's economy from disaster only due to the loans received from the organisation of the Persian Gulf countries for the economic development of Egypt, including such creditors as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Kuwait.

The FINANCIAL TIMES notes that economy under President 'Abd an-Nasir protected the population from the impact of world inflation and the prices remained at a permanent level. Under President as-Sadat, an opposite state of things is observed. His attempts to cancel state subsidies for basic foodstuffs and increase in the prices led last January to an outbreak of popular anger.

So far, the FINANCIAL TIMES stresses in conclusion, the "open doors policy" has proved to be little effective from the viewpoint of private foreign investment in the construction of industrial projects. But it invited capital in the development of the spheres which even more vividly underscore the disastrous situation of the impoverished masses--the construction of luxury hotels, establishment of foreign banks and car purchases. In this connection, one can ever more frequently hear in Egypt sharp accusations, made also in newspapers, of corruption among government officials and even friends of the president.

REVISE RELATIONS WITH U.S., NATO, TURKISH PAPERS URGE

LD162150Y Moscow TASS in English 1741 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Ankara, May 16 TASS--Turkey must revise its unequal relations with the United States, the entire history of which shows that Washington is striving to impose its own interests upon the country, says the newspaper YENI GUN. The NATO is one of the instruments used to implement the aggressive American plans in the Mediterranean region. This is why all the installations and bases of this organisation in the territory of Turkey must be liquidated, the newspaper stresses.

Turkey must rupture all her ties with imperialism, the newspaper urges. By pursuing a policy of nonalignment, the country will win the confidence and respect of its neighbours, which will permit her to establish really friendly relations with the countries of the region and to have effective mutually-advantageous cooperation with them.

Touching on the present state of the Turkish-American relations, the influential newspaper CUMHURIYET says that their revision is required, primarily by the national interests and sovereignty of Turkey. The newspaper stresses that such a revision will doubtlessly meet the support of the entire Turkish people.

MORE MATERIAL ON 10TH CONGRESS OF GREEK COMMUNIST PARTY

CPSU Greetings

LD161736Y Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16 TASS--Follows the message of greetings of the CPSU Central Committee to the Tenth Congress of the Communist Party of Greece:

To the Tenth Congress of the Communist Party of Greece,

Dear Comrades: The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union sends ardent fraternal greetings and warm wishes of successful fruitful work to you, the delegates of the congress, and through you to all the Greek communists.

The Communist Party of Greece, having won in persistent and difficult struggle against the reactionary forces its inalienable right to legal activity, is firmly and tirelessly upholding the vital interests of the working class, of all the working people of the country. The people is giving ever wider support to the consistent struggle of the communists in defence of national independence, for ridding the country of the rule of foreign and local monopolies, for real withdrawal from the aggressive NATO bloc and for liquidation of military bases in the Greek territory, for peace in the Balkans and throughout the world.

Loyalty to Marxism-Leninism, to proletarian internationalism, their creative application in the conditions of Greek reality, defence of communist principles from rightwing revisionists and leftist elements strengthen the prestige and influence of the Communist Party of Greece. Ideological and organisational consolidation of the party, strengthening of its ties with public organisations and broad masses of the working people are an earnest of new successes in its further activity to the benefit of the people. The Greek Communists make a weighty contribution to the internationalist cooperation and solidarity of communist and workers parties on the basis of the great ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin.

The Communist Party of Greece will have its 60th anniversary in November of the current year. The Soviet Communists highly value fraternal relations that have been linking our parties all these years.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union wishes the fraternal Communist Party of Greece further rallying of party ranks, widening and deepening of contacts with democratic organisations and forces of the country in the struggle for triumph of the ideas of peace, democracy and socialism.

Long live the Communist Party of Greece, the vanguard of the working class and all working people of the country.

May friendship between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of Greece, between the peoples of the USSR and Greece develop and strengthen.

Long live the ever-living teaching of Marxism-Leninism and may it always be victorious.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Chernenko Address

LD161658Y Moscow TASS in English 1646 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Athens, May 16, TASS--Head of the CPSU delegation, alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, Secretary of the CPSU CC Konstantin Chernenko addressed the 10th Congress of the Communist Party of Greece currently in session here.

In his speech Konstantin Chernenko greeted the delegates to the congress and extended to them, and in their person to all Greek Communists, greetings and wishes of success from the CPSU Central Committee, all the Soviet Communists, from general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev.

A consistent wedding of patriotism and internationalism and Marxist-Leninist principledness enabled the communists of Greece to go with honour through difficult trials and become an influential national force, said the head of the CPSU delegation.

The responsible attitude shown by the Communists of Greece in resolving the tasks facing them has again become manifest in the persistence with which they come out for the strengthening of their country's national independence, for such an international policy of Greece, that would be really free from the aggressive imperialists circles of the West, from the militaristic policy of the Atlantic bloc.

Konstantin Chernenko then touched upon some issues of home and foreign policy of the CPSU.

The essence of the road traversed by the Soviet people over 60 years has been clearly and vividly formulated by Leonid Brezhnev: "We have created a society unparalleled in history. This society is the highest achievement of world civilisation, a society of genuine freedom and real democracy, a society projected into the future and confidently paving the road to it."

Long past is the time when bourgeois ideologists were trying to prove vehemently that there can be no socialism, that this is a utopia, a futile dream, when they claimed that the capitalist system is eternal and unchangeable. The Great October Revolution and then the socialist revolutions accomplished by other peoples of Europe, Asia and America have most convincingly proved in practice the absurdity of these claims.

Long past are the times when our ideological opponents claimed that socialism is a "society of backwardness" that it will not be able to reach the summits of contemporary civilisation. It is impossible to make such claims nowadays.

Being unable to deny our successes in economy and as regards achieving a rise in the living standards of the mass of the people, our enemies are coming out against our socialist democracy.

The word "democracy" originated in your land, and it means "power by the people". But so far, beginning from the democracy of slave-owners and until now, this word has never been filled in the capitalist world with its real meaning. The struggle for democracy being waged by you, the Communists of Greece, as well as the communists of the other capitalist countries is a most important part of the struggle for socialism.

We, in our country, have for the first time ever filled the notion of "democracy" with real meaning. Our socialist democracy is indeed "power by the people". We consider that the main criterion of our democracy is the possibility for every citizen of the country to participate both in discussing and in deciding all public and state affairs. And this possibility is not only placed on record in our constitution, in our laws, it is translated into reality in action.

It is precisely in the interests of securing the rights of Soviet people and their freedom that our state does not allow any actions directed at propaganda of war and animosity among nations. Proceeding from these interests we do not permit activity aimed at infringing upon the rights of the working people, at undermining socialism. The essence of the Soviet state's Leninist foreign policy is well known to you. Our line, to characterise it briefly, has been and remains that of struggle for peace among nations, for lasting, reliable security for all countries in the world.

International detente has become in recent years the main trend in world development. But our party by no means thinks that all the questions of defence of peace have already been resolved, that the security of peoples has been reliably ensured. The aggressive circles of imperialism have not laid down their arms, this is seen from the arms drive whipped up by imperialism, above all by NATO. Considering this fact, our party and the Soviet state hope that ending the arms race is today an important key issue of further development of detente.

In his speech at the 18th Congress of the Young Communist League, Leonid Brezhnev put forward a programme of measures, whose realisation could ensure a halt to the arms race and then in the future a changeover to arms cuts. The Soviet Union will do everything possible on its part in the name of this goal.

Leonid Brezhnev's recent visit to the FRG has undoubtedly served towards a strengthening of European peace and developing peaceful cooperation among European nations. The joint Soviet-West German declaration and other documents adopted as a result of this visit will give, as we expect, a fresh impetus to detente in our continent.

Problems concerning the Mediterranean hold a considerable place in the general peace policy of the USSR. We declare that all the disputable issues between states in that area, including all the disturcing problems concerning the Aegean Sea, [should] be settled peacefully on the basis of the principles of the U.N. Charter. Our proposals on mutual withdrawal from the Mediterranean of ships equipped with nuclear weapons remain fully in force. The Soviet Union has repeatedly declared that it is ready to examine any other ideas concerning an improvement of the situation in the area of the Mediterranean.

The Soviet Union comes out for a further all-round development of friendship, cooperation and goodneighborly relations between our two countries. Greece, like the Soviet Union, signed the final act of the Helsinki conference. We see the provisions contained in it as a reliable base on which our ties may develop and strengthen.

A mighty force of contemporary social development, Konstantin Chernenko went on to say, is the international communist movement. By the early Seventies, the communist and workers' parties joined in their ranks nearly 50 million communists [who] are fighting in the ranks of the communist and workers' parties of the world. We realize that the road forward, the road of revolutionary struggle, cannot be smooth, and there are hollows and pot-holes in it...and we value all the efforts made by the brother parties in order to find a correct and a principled, true decision of the tasks faced by them.

We have firmly convinced ourselves from our own experience that there are two conditions that are necessary for finding such a solution. One of such conditions is loyalty to the principles of the great common internationalist teaching--Marxism-Leninism. All that has been achieved by the revolutionary (?forces) and the communists over the last sixty years has convinced with fresh [word indistinct] the correctness of these ideas, the correctness of the Marxist-Leninist methodology of revolutionary action. By creatively developing Marxism-Leninism and [word indistinct] with its aid correct answers to the new problems facing us we will be able to further advance confidently, to pave the way to the victory of socialism.

Another condition for the [word indistinct] of the communist party is their loyalty to their ideas of proletarian internationalism, to the ideas of internationalist solidarity. Today, [now] that our class enemies are weaving their intrigues on the scale of the world, that they base themselves in their actions on the ramified system of the imperialist military blocs, on political and ideological alliances, particularly important and necessary are the cohesion of the revolutionaries, their mutual support. Such a mutual support makes it possible to defend effectively and reliably the interests of the working class in each country and on the international scale as a whole.

Konstantin Chernenko handed to the presidium the text of the message of greetings from the CPSU CC to the Tenth Congress of the Communist Party of Greece and the gift--the banner, embroidered on the red velvet of which is: "To the Tenth Congress of the Communist Party of Greece from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. May 1978."

Receiving the banner First Secretary of the Communist Party of Greece CC Kharilaos Florakis warmly thanked the CPSU delegation and asked to convey to the Soviet Communists and to Leonid Brezhnev personally, to the whole Soviet people that the Greek Communists will carry high aloft the banner of proletarian internationalism.

FURTHER MATERIAL ON VISITING TURKISH SENATE PRESIDENT

Activities in Uzbekistan

LD151804Y Moscow TASS in English 1534 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Tashkent, May 15 TASS--President of the Senate of the Republic of Turkey Sirri Atalay has familiarised himself with Uzbekistan, a Soviet Central Asian republic. Sirri Atalay is in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the parliamentary group of the USSR.

In the past two days the president of the senate visited Samarkand and Bukhara. He inspected historical and architectural monuments, new residential districts of these major industrial and cultural centres. In Samarkand Sirri Atalay visited the scientific-research institute of Karak sheep breeding, one of the suburb cotton growing cooperative farms. [sentence as received] Sirri Atalay was received today by Sharaf Rashidov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan. In the course of a talk which was held in a friendly atmosphere he learnt about the transformations that took place in the life of the Uzbek people in the years of Soviet Government. A dinner was given in honour of the president of the Senate of Turkey on behalf of the Supreme Soviet of Uzbekistan.

Return to Moscow

LD162026Y Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16 TASS--Sirri Atalay, president of the Turkish Senate, returned to Moscow today from a tour of the country. He is staying in the Soviet Union on the invitation of the USSR Parliamentary Group. The guest visited the Lenin mausoleum and laid a wreath. He also visited Lenin's study and flat in the Kremlin, now a museum, inspected the great Kremlin Palace and had a conversation at the USSR Ministry of Agriculture. The committee of the USSR Parliamentary Group held a luncheon in honour of the president of the Turkish Senate.

Kremlin Meeting With Kuznetsov

LD162255Y Moscow TASS in English 2132 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--Alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, First Vice-President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vasiliy Kuznetsov received in the Kremlin today President of the Turkish Senate Sirri Atalay, who is currently on a visit in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Parliamentary Group. Discussed in the course of the meetings were questions of Soviet-Turkish relations and some international issues. Vasiliy Kuznetsov expressed confidence that the development of Soviet-Turkish relations on the basis of goodneighbourliness and mutually beneficial cooperation meets the interests of the two neighbour countries peoples and is a contribution to the strengthening of detente in Europe and all over the world. He devoted great attention to the disarmament problem and set forth the USSR's principled stand on this issue.

Vasiliy Kuznetsov pointed out the importance of Soviet-Turkish contacts, including along the lines of the parliaments of the two countries, for strengthening the goodneighbour relations between the USSR and the Turkish republic and declared for their further development. Sirri Atalay noted with satisfaction the successful development of relations between the two countries and stressed the significance attached by the Turkish leaders to the strengthening of Turkish-Soviet relations. He expressed gratitude for the hospitality and the possibility given to him to familiarize himself with life of the Soviet land and expressed hope that his visit will serve towards a broadening of ties between the parliaments and peoples of the two countries. The meeting, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, was attended by Chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, Chairman of the Soviet of the Union--one of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet--Aleksey Shitikov, vice chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Mikhail Georgadze. On the same day, Sirri Atalay was received by Aleksey Shitikov, who told the guest about the structure and activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

MORE ON SITUATION IN ZAIRE'S SHABA PROVINCE

Fighting Continues; Warning to NATO

LD161940Y Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Paris, May 16, TASS--According to reports by news agencies, fighting continues in Zaire's Shaba (former Katanga) Province between detachments of the Front for the National Liberation of the Congo (FNLC) and government forces. Fighting is particularly fierce in the areas of the towns of Kolwezi and Mutshatsha. The Belgian agency BELGA reports with reference to informed sources that Kolwezi, a mining and major railway centre, is in the hands of the front. According to a FNLC spokesman "foreign soldiers and mercenaries" are fighting on the side of the Zairean forces. The French newspaper L'ECHO writes about "the deep dissatisfaction of Zaire's population with the worsening economic situation". The paper notes that purchasing power is plummeting in Zaire. Inflation and unemployment are growing. Last year the country's budget deficit amounted to 340 million dollars, and foreign debt exceeded two billion dollars.

Brussels, May 16 TASS--According to press reports the Zairean organisation national movement of the Congo has sent telegrams to the governments of the United States and some other NATO countries and also to China warning them against interference in internal events in Zaire. The conflict in Shaba, the organisation stresses, is a purely internal Zairean affair into which nobody should interfere.

French Military Aircraft

LD170206Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0001 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] In connection with the latest offensive by insurrectionists in the southern Zaire Province of Shaba, the French paper FIGARO asserts that an order has been sent to the French airbase at Orleans to make military transport aircraft ready for takeoff. We would recall that aircraft from this base in spring last year took part in transporting Moroccan troops and fighting equipment to Zaire, to put down major antigovernment uprisings.

Angolan Statement

LD170904Y Moscow TASS in English 0746 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, May 17, TASS--The People's Republic of Angola (PRA) is absolutely not implicated in the armed actions of the Zairean opposition against the Kinshasa authorities, says the PRA Defence Ministry's statement issued here. The statement rejects the assertions of the Zairean news agency AZAP that the town of Kolwezi was attacked by armed detachments penetrating into Zaire from Angola. At the same time the statement points out that the population of the PRA rendered and will render fraternal help to thousands of Zairean refugees who find refuge in Angola's territory.

RHODESIAN TROOPS KILL 50 AFRICANS ATTENDING MEETING

LD171024Y Moscow TASS in English 1014 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, May 17, TASS--The Rhodesian military staged a massacre of peaceful inhabitants of the Gutu region. Punitive troops opened fire on a group of Africans taking part in a village meeting. Fifty Africans were killed and 24 wounded.

ZIMBABWE PATRIOTS FREE 2,500 FROM FORTIFIED VILLAGES

LD121412Y Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Maputo, May 12 TASS--The fighting-men of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe who struggle against the illegal regime of Salisbury score new successes. As is pointed out in the organization's communique published here, the patriots shot down the punitive troops' two aircraft that participated in an air raid on the positions of the front in Rhodesia's north east. The communique points out that as a result of successful operations in Rhodesia's territory the patriots freed 2,500 Africans from so-called fortified villages to where the racists drive civilians.

FURTHER MATERIAL ON SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION IN ZAMBIA

Meeting With Kaunda

LD170913Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Lusaka, 13 May TASS--Zambian President K. Kaunda has rated highly the Soviet Union's role in support of the liberation movements of southern Africa, as well as of peoples striving for national liberation. Receiving a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by B. Ye. Sarkisov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is in the country on the invitation of the republic's National Assembly, the Zambian head of state stressed that close ties have been established between the two countries in the sphere of politics and the economy and of social, technical and cultural relations. Our countries, the president said, regularly exchange delegations of party, state and social organizations. The Soviet Union gives Zambia assistance in training national cadres and developing education, health services and agriculture. Our relations are friendly. He said he favored the further strengthening and broadening of bilateral ties.

Kaunda asked for the kindest wishes to be conveyed to L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and all Soviet people. I recall with great satisfaction, the president said, recent meetings and fruitful talks with Comrade Brezhnev and hope that I will be able to meet with him again.

The delegation also met with G. Zulu, secretary general of the United National Independence Party, and M. Chona, prime minister of the republic.

Today the delegation left Lusaka.

USSR-Zambia Aims

LD170915Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 May 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Text] Lusaka, 11 May TASS--The Soviet Union has always given and will continue to help peoples fighting for national liberation, (Pikson Chitambala), political secretary of the United National Independence Party of the southern province of Zambia, stated at a meeting with the USSR supreme Soviet delegation led by B. Ye. Sarkisov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which was visiting the city of Livingstone.

The friendship between our countries, (Chitambala) said, was born back in the years of the Zambian people's struggle against colonialism and imperialism. The Soviet Union was among those who supported our struggle for independence and is actively assisting the elimination of the vestiges of colonialism persisting in the south of Africa. For this, he stressed, we express our gratitude to your great country.

(Chitambala) criticized the policy of the Western countries which, striving to maintain their economic positions in this part of the world, are continuing to support the racist regimes.

The Soviet Union and Zambia, he noted in conclusion, have common aims in the struggle against imperialism and for the freedom of enslaved peoples and are against colonialism, social injustice and oppression in southern Africa and other regions of the world. He expressed confidence that the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation's visit would make it possible to strengthen even further the friendly ties between Zambia and the Soviet Union.

JOURNALISM A DANGEROUS PROFESSION IN SOUTH AFRICA

LD112147Y Moscow TASS in English 2047 GMT 11 May 78 LD

[Text] Maputo, May 11, TASS--The racialist authorities of Pretoria have reacted in their own typical way to the scandalous disclosure of the practice of bribing pressmen. They have decided to launch new repressions against the press and to revise for this purpose the "state secrets law," to make it even tougher than now. Speaking in the South African Parliament this Wednesday, the information minister of the racialist regime, Cornelius Mulder, implied that the law would be amended in such a way as to deprive the press of the right to publish reports on scandals such as the one involving the Ministry of Information.

Unseemly actions of the regime's propaganda services came to light the other day in the Republic of South Africa. They made use of a "secret fund" to bribe officials, newspaper editors and foreign pressmen with a view to securing the publication of propaganda materials suiting the regime.

The journalistic profession is becoming one of the most dangerous in the Republic of South Africa. According to the figures of the international press institute, journalists rank first among those who are compelled to flee the Republic of South Africa illegally in order to avoid repressions. Michael Mzuleng, a progressive South African journalist, fled the racialist inferno under another name. He had spent ten months in a solitary cell of the central Johannesburg jail, where he was locked up for truthful reports on the police massacre of demonstrating schoolchildren in Soweto. The fate of Donald Woods, former editor of the newspaper DAILY DISPATCH, who escaped by sheer miracle from the paws of the South African secret service, the jailing of scores of progressive pressmen--all this shows that the Pretoria rulers persecute ruthlessly those pressmen who endeavour to disseminate truthful information on the situation in the Republic of South Africa.

TARAKI THANKS BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN FOR CONGRATULATIONS

LD101530Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1511 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, TASS--Nur Mohammad Taraki has sent Leonid Brezhnev and Aleksey Kosygin a telegram of sincere thanks for their heartfelt congratulations on his election as chairman of the Revolutionary Council and head of the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The telegram expresses the hope that relations of neighborliness and friendship between the Afghan and Soviet peoples will be strengthened even more and that fruitful cooperation in various fields will further develop in the interests of the peoples of both countries and of universal peace.

Nur Mohammad Taraki conveyed wishes for the further prospering of the friendly Soviet Union.

Foreign Minister's Message

LD161525Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 May 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--Hafizollah Amin, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, has sent a telegram to A.A. Gromyko, USSR foreign minister, in which he expressed his deep gratitude for the congratulations on his appointment to these posts.

The telegram expressed the hope that relations between Afghanistan and the USSR will continue to develop and grow stronger.

INTERNAL SECURITY, LEGAL ORGANS ESTABLISHED IN AFGHANISTAN

LD151736Y Moscow TASS in English 1707 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Kabul, May 15, TASS--The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is taking vigorous steps to strengthen and develop democratic transformations and social reforms proclaimed by the new government after the victory of the April revolution. According to a report of Radio Kabul, a special organization has been formed in the country. Its task is to protect the young state from encroachments upon its independence and internal security. The government formed a legal commission to control measures to ensure democratic rights of the people. According to the press, a decree was adopted here which envisages fair distribution of food product among state employees and workers. The decree also covers servicemen.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has embarked upon a reform in the country's judiciary system. According to the press, at Afghanistan's criminal courts there are now more than 6,000 cases awaiting consideration. A special commission under the attorney-general will attend to these cases and will also consider cases of abuse of power that took place under the previous regime.

The new government pays much attention to transformations in the sphere of education. Under the previous regime, only 29 percent of the children had a possibility to go to school and 80 percent of adult Afghanis were fully illiterate.

In his Radio Kabul appearance, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of Afghanistan N.M. Taraki has disclosed the government's intention to introduce in the country free compulsory education and free tuition at secondary and higher educational establishments.

These measures are bound to play a major role in overcoming the backwardness and survivals of feudalism in the Afghan society.

Afghan Mideast, African Policy

LD162315Y Moscow TASS in English 2140 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Teheran, May 16, TASS--The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] intends to pursue a policy of friendship and cooperation with all neighbour countries, said chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of Afghanistan Nur Mohammad Taraki speaking in an interview with the correspondent of the ETTELAAT newspaper. Afghanistan's foreign policy, he stressed, is based on the principles of positive and active nonalignment. It serves the interests of peace. Our relations with all countries will depend above all on their attitude to our revolution and on their wish to help us in achieving our national goals.

The new Government of Afghanistan, Taraki went on to say, declares for the liberation of the Israeli-occupied Arab territories and for the creation of an independent state for the Palestinian people. Afghanistan, he stressed, supports the struggle of the African peoples against apartheid and other forms of racial discrimination.

Speaking on the April revolution in Afghanistan, the chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA said: We, members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, had prepared ourselves for the revolution for a long time, since the first day of founding of our party in January 1965. Former President Daud, who came to power in 1973 as a result of military coup, promised that all the political parties would be given the possibility to participate in the government. But soon all were disappointed. Daud used the parties only to capture power. Then he announced that the People's Democratic Party could not take part in the government, and soon after that our party was banned.

The Daud regime, Taraki went on to say, promised to improve the living conditions of the people, but this did not happen. During the five years of his rule, the positions of the people even further deteriorated and under that situation the revolution must be accomplished.

Socioeconomic, Democratic Changes

LD162328Y Moscow in Czech and Slovak to Czechoslovakia 1600 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] is taking the first steps along the new course of the country's development. After the revolution of 27 April, the main directions of the foreign and domestic policy of the country was established. Afghanistan will conduct an independent peace policy of nonalinement, positive and active neutrality on the basis of peaceful coexistence, and a policy of strengthening neighborly relations with all countries of the region. The new government also supports national liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

As stressed by Nur Mohammad Taraki, the country's leader, the DRA Government's primary task is to safeguard territorial integrity, national sovereignty and the country's independence through a resolute defense of the revolutionary gains and the creation of real unity of all national, progressive and patriotic forces. Large-scale socioeconomic reforms will be introduced by a policy of eliminating the country's economic backwardness. It is planned that the country will begin industrialization, efforts will be made to raise the people's living standards, democratic land reform will be introduced and feudal and prefeudal relations will be liquidated. Moreover, the state economic sector will be strengthened and effective control will be introduced in the use of natural resources. The new regime intends to introduce large-scale democratic changes in the interest of workers, peasants, artisans, the intelligentsia, small shopkeepers and the patriotic clergy, to safeguard their rights and freedoms and meet their political and economic demands. Almost 90 percent of the DRA's population is illiterate. In this connection, the introduction of a general and free basic education is of great importance. The network of technical schools will be expanded to train technical cadres. Also a system of free medical care for the population will be established. The introduction of these tasks means a new, historic landmark in the life of the Afghan people.

These tasks have met with the understanding and support of the Afghan masses. This is stressed by all objective observers. However, the changes that have occurred in Afghanistan do not please certain Western circles. The press, controlled by these circles, has organized a propaganda campaign against the young republic to discredit the new regime and disparage it before world public opinion. Fabrications about a bloodbath in Afghanistan and about the persecution of church officials are published. They are trying to scare the Afghan people and the neighboring countries with the specter of communism. They are also attempting to provoke religious fanaticism and a counter-revolutionary mood within Afghanistan itself. They are trying to portray the Afghan revolution as an event inspired by external forces.

These claims are entirely false. The events in Afghanistan are a movement of the popular masses to liquidate the vestiges of the rotten monarchist regime and introduce radical revolutionary changes. Certain Western propaganda organs have attempted the unseemly task of promoting an atmosphere of hostility on Afghanistan's borders with neighboring states. For instance, the TIMES newspaper has published an article that questions the new revolutionary government's ability to evade a conflict with its neighbors. This comment is an obvious provocation.

The leaders of Afghanistan have demonstrated their desire to cooperate with neighboring states, which shows that the claims of opponents distort the truth deliberately. The DRA has already been recognized by many states throughout the world. This is proof of the consolidation of the authority of the new power on the international arena. Revolutionary Afghanistan is taking the first steps in its development and it can be said with certainty that the country has made a good start. The head of state, Nur Mohammad Taraki, declared in one of his speeches that through the combined effort of the democratic and progressive national forces and the past efforts of all people of the country, the national revolution of the Afghan people will lead to final victory.

INDIAN DEFENSE MINISTER TO VISIT USSR IN MAY

LD170840Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0816 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 17 May--It is reported here that at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, Jagjivan Ram, minister of defense of the Republic of India, will pay an official visit to the Soviet Union in the second half of May.

VAJPAYEE DECLARES SUPPORT OF DISARMAMENT EFFORTS

LD151916Y Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, May 15, TASS--India comes out firmly and consistently for banning the neutron bomb and other types of mass annihilation weapons, the Indian Foreign Minister A.B. Vajpayee told the lower chamber of parliament today. Our principled stand on this matter is known to all states, he said.

The minister stressed that India will [words indistinct] nuclear disarmament at every international forum, including the forthcoming special session of the U.N. General Assembly for disarmament, believing such disarmament to be a paramount task on the road to general and complete disarmament.

INDIAN SPACE EXPLORATION PROGRAM RECEIVES SOVIET AID

LD141328Y Moscow TASS in English 1013 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, May 14, TASS--The onboard equipment of the first Indian artificial earth satellite Aryabhata launched into a near-earth orbit on April 19, 1975 by means of a Soviet launch vehicle from the Soviet Union's territory, continues functioning normally, said director of India's Space Research Centre, U.R. Rao. Close cooperation with Soviet specialists in the field of outer space, he noted, has enabled their Indian colleagues to start the implementation of a large program of national outer space explorations.

At present, U.R. Rao said, three new satellites designed, manufactured and assembled by Indian scientists, engineers and technicians is in its closing stage. The first satellite is designed for terrestrial observations. Scientists will receive with its aid information about forests and fields, hydroresources, the state of snow and of snow melting and other data for the benefit of agriculture and industry of India. It is to be put into orbit already in the current year.

The second satellite Rohini weighing nearly 40 kg is to be launched early next year by means of an Indian launch vehicle. It is planned to put the experimental communication satellite Apple into a geostationary orbit also in 1979.

Along with the implementation of the said project in connection with the launching of satellites, U.R. Rao stressed, the center for the launching of satellites is developing and preparing ground equipment and communication apparatuses for future space programs.

MEXICAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN MOSCOW, MET BY BREZHNEV

LD171020Y Moscow TASS in English 1013 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 17, TASS--The President of the United States of Mexico Jose Lopez Portillo arrived here today for an official visit at the invitation of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Soviet Government. At the airport the distinguished guest was welcomed by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR, other officials.

CUBAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATION IN KAZAKH SSR

FL151811Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 May 78 FL

[Text] An interesting exchange of viewpoints took place today when a Cuban People's Government National Assembly delegation visited the Supreme Soviet of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic. The delegation is headed by National Assembly Vice President Raul Roa Garcia. In the course of the visit the Cuban delegation was briefed on people's government in Kazakhstan. Afterward the Cuban delegation visited the 50th October Revolution anniversary cotton complex.

Hails Soviet Assistance

FL161120Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 16 May 78 FL

[Text] Raul Roa Garcia, vice president of the People's Government National Assembly, has declared that the history of revolutionary solidarity and socialist internationalism between the Soviet Union and Cuba is an example for the world. Roa spoke at a reception given in Alma-Ata by Sabir Nyyazbekov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, in honor of the delegation of Cuban deputies that is visiting the USSR. Roa underscored the continued assistance which Cuba has received from the Soviet Union which has been a decisive contribution for the consolidation of the Cuban revolution. The proof of this contribution can be found anywhere in Cuba, from agriculture to defense, National Assembly Vice President Raul Roa Garcia emphasized.

LUIS CORVALAN LAUDS SOLIDARITY IN ISOLATING CHILE

LD121522Y Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, May 12 TASS--"The international solidarity with the democratic forces of Chile is rendering a valuable support to the struggle waged by our people against the Pinochet dictatorship. The international isolation of the junta is a major achievement of the world democratic movement." This was stated at a press conference held in Bonn today by General Secretary of the Communist Party of Chile Luis Corvalan. He is now in the FRG at the invitation of the board of the German Communist Party.

Luis Corvalan has emphasized that joint actions of the popular unity parties, trade union, women's, youth organizations against the fascist junta regime are broadening and gaining in strength. The ultimate result of this struggle will be the collapse of the dictatorship and the revival of freedom and democracy in Chile, said the general secretary of the Communist Party of Chile.

PROSECUTION WITNESSES TESTIFY AT YURIY ORLOV TRIAL

LD161818Y Moscow TASS in English 1758 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16 TASS--TASS correspondent reports: Yuriy Orlov's criminal activities are fully confirmed by witnesses who appeared today at the Moscow City Court and cited numerous facts about the crime committed by Orlov.

The hearing of the case of Orlov began on Monday. He is accused of engaging in anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda in 1973-1977, of producing and distributing documents containing slanderous concoctions and smearing the Soviet state and social system with the aim of undermining and weakening Soviet power.

Thus, one of the documents prepared and disseminated by Orlov reported that in August 1976 the Supreme Court of Latvia had allegedly sentenced to various terms in prison "four workers at the Riga port who were arrested after a fish day strike." The document cited their names and surnames.

It was established from official sources and during the examination of the witness Viesturs Varna that the above-mentioned document is a fabrication from beginning to end.

The persons named by Orlov not only had not been faced with criminal charges but had not worked or lived in Latvia in 1975 and 1976.

Orlov's contention that the village of Ilyinka in Voronezh region (central Russia), where people of Jewish creed live, is isolated by the authorities from the outer world is a lie, the court was told by Viktor Tarasov, chairman of the collective farm Rossiya. It is a shame that these slanderous concoctions were picked up by many Western correspondents, in particular by Robert Toth, who wrote an article for the Los Angeles TIMES about Soviet Jews "surviving" in a godforsaken place.

The village Ilyinka, which is a part of the Rossiya Collective Farm, is a modern settlement with a school, club, store, medical and other necessary establishments, Tarasov went on. The villagers have cars and motorcycles, TV and radio-sets, telephones, refrigerators and other household articles. The collective farmers have kitchen gardens in which they grow vegetables and other agricultural products for their needs. The Jews who live there freely conduct religious services in a special building. The settlement is connected by good roads with the district center and a railway station so it is hardly possible to speak about any "isolation" of its inhabitants.

In connection with Orlov's anti-Soviet publications some inhabitants of Ilyinka received written invitations from abroad to "reunite" with non-existing relatives. It was then that the angered Rossiya Collective farmers sent a letter to the Israeli Foreign Ministry protesting against the actions of the Israeli authorities directed at splitting families of Soviet citizens.

Ein Kozhokin, a worker at a poultry farm, was one of those who received such an invitation. I have no relatives in Israel whatsoever, he told the court. Like the other inhabitants of Ilyinka I do not intend to leave my country.

In many documents fabricated by him, Orlov wrote about alleged "psychiatric repressions" for political beliefs in the USSR. The falsity of these concoctions was fully demonstrated by testimony given by a group of psychiatrists.

The conditions in which patients are held and the methods of treatment at Soviet clinics fully accord with the established diagnoses.

The documents produced by Orlov are inventions of a person totally ignorant of psychiatry and methods of treatment of mental cases, the court was told by Viktoriya Blokhina and Lydmila Lyubarskaya, psychiatrists from Dnepropetrovsk. They stated, in particular, that the conditions in which patients are held, the methods and the course of treatment accord with the established diagnoses. During their stay in hospital the patients are kept in normal conditions, are fed well and have daily walks. They are frequently visited by relatives and friends.

People serving sentences were summoned to court from places of detention described by Orlov and testified that living conditions are normal in corrective labour colonies. Those who serve sentences are drawn into socially useful work, the type of work for each being determined with account for skills and state of health. Sleeping accommodation is spacious and clean, said Zinoviy Dovganich. On the premises there is a store that sells various foodstuffs. Films are shown weekly. Contentions that food and living conditions are bad in places of detention are a lie, he declared. This was confirmed by Viktor Anisimov, who is also serving a sentence.

Documents fabricated by Orlov were extensively used by definite imperialist circles, anti-Soviet organizations and propaganda centers of a number of Western countries to conduct a subversive campaign against the USSR. It was noted at the court that several of Orlov's slanderous concoctions were printed in anti-Soviet publications and broadcast by the "Liberty", Deutsche Welle, Voice of America, BBC and Radio Rome radio stations.

Testimony by witnesses heard by the court fully exposes Orlov's anti-Soviet activity.

In the course of questioning on Monday Orlov admitted authorship of documents containing anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda.

The hearing of the case continues.

Trial in Georgia Continues, Sakharov a 'Provocateur'

LD161734Y Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Tbilisi, May 16 TASS--The second day of the hearing by the Tbilisi City Court of the criminal case of Zviad Gamsakhurdiya and Merab Kostava began with testimony by witnesses.

Kavtaradze, Alavidze, Rtskhiladze, Magularia and others told the court the facts that they knew about the criminal activity of Gamsakhurdiya and Kostava, in particular, facts confirming their production, copying and dissemination of anti-Soviet and slanderous materials, as well as publication of illegal magazines of the same directedness.

Witness Rtskhiladze said that Gamsakhurdiya had instructed him to distribute hostile literature produced by Gamsakhurdiya. Rtskhiladze noted that the magazines unlawfully put out by the defendants included materials obviously hostile to the Soviet state. Knowing the unpopularity of subversive actions against the Soviet system, the defendants covered them up with demagogy about "struggle for human rights."

The relatives and friends of Gamsakhurdiya and Kostava, who follow the course of the trial, were surprised by the desire of Sakharov and his wife to come to Tbilisi. "This is unpleasant to us," they said, "for it was Sakharov who drew Gamsakhurdiya into unlawful activities and thereby put him in the dock." Judging by everything, this was realized also by Sakharov, who at the last moment changed his mind and returned from the airport to Moscow. A behavior well worthy of a provocateur. The trial continues.

BREZHNEV, OTHERS ATTEND SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM MEETING

LD161430Y Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, was in the chair at a meeting of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. in the Kremlin today.

The first item on the agenda was the results of the work in the drafting and adoption of the new constitutions of the union republics.

An event of great historic significance took place in the life of our country, emphasized Leonid Brezhnev opening the meeting. The adopted constitutions embodied the wealth of experience of state development, the further advance of socialist democracy, the great strength of the inviolable union of the Soviet peoples.

A report on this question was made by Vasiliy Kuznetsov, member [as received; Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1400 GMT on 16 May calls Kuznetsov "candidate member"] of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. He pointed out that the drafts of the republican constitutions had been prepared under the leadership of party bodies, on the firm foundation of the decisions of the plenary meetings of the CPSU Central Committee in May, October and December 1977, the new Constitution of the USSR and the works of Leonid Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

The proceedings of the extraordinary sessions of the Supreme Soviets of the union republics, which endorsed the constitutions, were held in an atmosphere of exceptional unanimity, high activity of deputies. The discussion and adoption of the constitutions of the union republics became further striking evidence of the monolithic cohesion of the people around the party.

Speaking on this question, Leonid Brezhnev said:

It can be considered that the aim the party set when it submitted the drafts of those constitutions to nationwide discussion, was attained. The participation of millions of Soviet people in such an important matter made it possible to clarify and amend the fundamental laws, enriching them with the experience of the people, taking into consideration the specific features of each republic.

In this context I should like to draw attention to some fundamentally important circumstances.

Firstly, just as during the discussion of the draft constitution of the USSR, Soviet people once again placed in the foreground questions related to the responsibility of the citizens for their labour, for their contribution to the common cause.

Soviet man reveals himself everywhere as an exacting man, who cannot tolerate shortcomings, who takes them close to his heart, is worried about the matter, is a man for whom the destiny of the homeland cannot be divorced from his own destiny. In my tour of regions of Siberia and the Far East, I have felt this once again with renewed vigour.

Many proposals which deserve attention were made in the process of the discussion of the draft constitutions. It is highly important not to miss here anything, literally to collect each grain of everything that is useful and valuable, in practical work to heed as fully as possible the wishes of the working people. This is a task not only for our republican and local bodies, but also, of course, for our central bodies.

Secondly, the discussion became another striking manifestation of the deep internationalism of our entire society.

The Constitution of the USSR and the republican constitutions reaffirmed that the friendship of the peoples is a really inestimable achievement of socialism, a mighty moving force of our development.

Our party's attitude to national specific features has always been and still is that of proper solicitude and respect. At the same time, following Lenin's behests, it persistently educates the working people in a spirit of intolerance to national narrow-mindedness and conceit.

The tempestuous development of the economy and culture of all our republics, all our socialist nations and peoples, the very breath of life, it can be said, lead each Soviet nation to a simple conclusion: The guarantee of its further prosperity lies in the fraternal cooperation of all Soviet people, in the mutual enrichment of their national cultures, in the successful solution of to the problems of all the people, the entire state, the entire great Soviet land. Therein lies the foundation of the inviolable unity of the Soviet people as a new historic community of people.

And lastly, thirdly, typical of the drafting and adoption of the republican constitutions was clear-cut attention for the problems of the development of local bodies of power.

In the constitutions we determine the functions of the local soviets so thoroughly because through them, above all, the will of all the people is put into effect and the requirements of the population are taken into consideration.

Way back during the revolution a saying was born: "The members of the soviet are responsible for the people," and it is necessary that all provisions of our constitutions concerning the soviets, which are really responsible for everything that is being done in the country, are carried out most thoroughly. This is the direct duty of the officials of the machinery of state. This is the paramount concern of party bodies.

As you evidently know, comrades, the draft constitutions of the autonomous republics are now under discussion. Their adoption, Leonid Brezhnev said in conclusion, will accomplish big and busy activities on the constitutional formulation of the social and state affairs of mature socialism, on building the foundation of the entire system of legislation of the state of the whole people.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR adopted a decision on the question under discussion.

It says that the Supreme Soviets of the union republics, complying with Article 76 of the Constitution of the USSR, endorsed the new constitutions of the union republics, which accord with the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and take into consideration the specific features of each republic. The necessity was stressed of persistent realisation of all observations made by the working people in the discussion of the draft constitutions and the proposals submitted by deputies of the Supreme Soviets. The main tasks of the Soviets of People's Deputies and of all state bodies in the implementation of each provision of the new constitutions were determined.

The Presidium heard a report of the Council of Ministers of the USSR on the fulfillment of an instruction, envisaged by the laws on the state plan of economic and social development and on the state budget of the USSR for 1978. The report was made by Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

He said that fulfilling the instruction of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the government had twice discussed the question of realisation of proposals and observations of the standing commissions [Moscow Radio version adds words "and deputies"]. These proposals and observations were considered at meetings of the collegiums of ministries, departments, and meetings of the Councils of Ministers of the union republics, and steps are being implemented for their practical realisation. Of course, not all questions can be settled immediately, Aleksey Kosygin went on to say. Many of them require for their implementation substantial resources, supplementary capital investments not envisaged in the economic plan. But even in such cases motivated proposals serve our common cause, make a favourable impact on the drafting and formulation of plans for economic and social development in coming years.

Pointing out that steps for the implementation of many proposals and observations found an expression in plan targets and also in socialist obligations for 1978, Aleksey Kosygin illustrated the work done by citing a number of specific instances. He drew attention, specifically, to the progress of realisation of proposals for accelerating the elaboration and implementation of measures for setting up the Kansko-Achiynsk fuel and energy complex, for increasing the reserve of capacities in the energy systems of the country, for the further development of the raw material supplies for the non-ferrous metal industry, for accelerating the work on the design, testing and mastering of the production of machinery and equipment for the comprehensive mechanisation of agricultural production, for a more comprehensive solution to the problems of development of the economy in the regions of new construction projects and in the Non-Chernozem Zone of the Russian Federation and some others.

It was also said that the Presidium of the Council of Ministers of the USSR a few days ago considered and approved a programme of steps in connection with the instructions and recommendations, voiced by Leonid Brezhnev during his tour of regions of Siberia and the Far East concerning the economic and social development of those regions in the period until 1990.

In conclusion Aleksey Kosygin emphasised that the Council of Ministers of the USSR attached great importance to correct organisation of work in considering and putting into effect the proposals of standing commissions and deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and would continue paying proper attention to this work.

Speaking on this question, Leonid Brezhnev said:

I believe, comrades, that we act correctly when we thoroughly consider in the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR questions related to implementation of the decisions of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the laws it adopted, realisation of the recommendations of the standing commissions, proposals and observations of deputies.

The practice obtaining here fully flows from the demands of the Constitution and is motivated by the vital requirements of social development.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR adopted a decision on this question, the draft of which had been submitted by the Planning and Budgetary commissions of the chambers. The Government of the USSR was instructed to safeguard control over the consistent implementation by ministries and departments of the USSR, and by the Councils of Ministers of the union republics, of the proposals and observations voiced by the standing commissions and deputies.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR next considered the question of ratification of the convention on the prohibition of action to influence the environment for military or any other hostile purposes, signed in Geneva on May 18th, 1977, and submitted for ratification by the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, spoke at the meeting of the Presidium. The Communist Party and the Soviet state, he said, consistently, from year to year are stepping up their efforts designed to prevent war, to end the arms race and to bring about disarmament. The Soviet Union is waging the struggle for disarmament on a wide front.

Parallel with steps to limit and reduce existing types of arms, in recent years the task has become ever more topical of preventing the emergence of new types of arms, especially of mass annihilation, and also preventing the extension of the arms race to new spheres.

Andrey Gromyko made a detailed analysis of the convention, emphasising that its entry into force would not only be another step towards the consolidation of peace and security of the peoples, but also an important factor making for environmental protection. The convention fully accords with the interests of the Soviet people, all peoples of the world.

On behalf of the Foreign Affairs commissions of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the meeting was addressed by Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU CC, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities. He emphasized that the convention's entering into force will be a new contribution to the cause of curbing the arms race. The convention will be not only of juridical importance but also of moral one, reminding people that man is the only reasonable component of nature and this is way he has no right to use his reason to the detriment of nature, to the detriment of the whole of mankind. Boris Ponomarev said the commissions unanimously endorsed the proposal of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, which was referred to them for decision, on ratification of the convention, and on an instruction of the commissions submitted to the Presidium's consideration the recommendation to ratify this important international document.

Summing up the results of the discussion Leonid Brezhnev pointed out the following:

The convention which we are ratifying today is another concrete step which to a certain extent narrows the sphere of preparation of a new war. This step was initiated by the Soviet Union which consistently implements the peace program adopted by the 24th and 25th congresses of the CPSU.

At the same time the convention as if epitomizes another one of paramount tasks of our time--to preserve our planet in all its beauty and diversity--the planet of people, so that it could continue to serve people.

The Soviet Union does everything possible for the protection of nature, its vegetable and animal kingdoms, and mineral resources. This is what Lenin bequeathed to us. His signature is under more than a hundred documents on the protection of nature, adopted in the first years of Soviet power. This course was again confirmed by the 25th congress of our party. We shall continue to adhere to this line in future as well.

But we are not alone on the planet, and the conservation of nature requires the efforts of all people inhabiting the globe. The wound inflicted on nature in one continent may not remain uninjurious for another one. The more so if the wound is inflicted deliberately, with malicious intention, to the detriment of people. Possibilities for that, unfortunately, grow with the progress of science.

This convention concerns all states. It reaffirms the right of each people to live on earth in tranquillity and strengthens the hope that not only ourselves but also our grandchildren and great-grandchildren will likewise be able to use the bounties of nature--the natural basis of life of every person.

Approving this convention we are calling on all states to accede to it. The protection of nature is a common cause. It requires the efforts of the whole mankind.

Only several days separate us from the beginning of the work of the U.N. General Assembly's special session on disarmament. The program with which the Soviet Union goes to the session is quite considerable. It is aimed at fully terminating the arms race--both quantitative and qualitative, and at bringing about a genuine change in the solution of disarmament problem--the most important one of all international problems.

The endorsement of this convention by the states exactly now is a step in the same direction, a limited-in-scope one though. Bringing the convention into force the parties to the convention as if emphasize: It is unreasonable to bring the matters to a situation when new dangerous forms of tools of war and destruction appear in the arsenals of states. Harm from that is vast and difficult to repair.

Therefore allow me to conclude by recalling the necessity for an earliest solution of other urgent problems of limiting the arms race.

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet unanimously ratifies the convention on the prohibition of action to influence the environment for military and other purposes.

On behalf of the Presidium Leonid Brezhnev signs the decree and the instrument of ratification of the convention.

After that the Presidium discussed the question of the work of the editorial boards of the newspaper "IZVESTIYA of the Soviets of People's Deputies of the USSR" [as received] and the journal "SOVIETS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES" aimed at further improving the generalization and popularization of the experience of the activities of the soviets and their deputies. Reports at the meeting were made by Petr Alekseyev, editor-in-chief of the newspaper IZVESTIYA and Mikhail Strepukhov, editor-in-chief of the journal SOVIETS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES. They reported to the Presidium about the work done and about how the editorial staff solve the responsible tasks facing them.

Characterizing the work of these organs of the press Leonid Brezhnev said:

Of course, comrades, both IZVESTIYA and the journal SOVIETS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES do a large amount of useful work. I already happened to say this with respect to IZVESTIYA when we presented the newspaper with the Order of the October Revolution two months ago. SOVIETS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES, which was, incidentally, recently awarded, too, is IZVESTIYA's journal, and something of what has been said [here] may be attributed by the staff to themselves.

We communists always regard rewarding as a bill which one is to pay for by new achievements. This is why there is sense in looking today at the work of the newspaper and the journal in a more exacting and critical way.

It is clear that each publication has its principal theme determining, so to say, its aspect. For IZVESTIYA and the SOVIETS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES, the activities of the Soviet power bodies in all their diversity, the work of the people's deputies themselves are such a theme.

V.I. Lenin said that Soviet power is the power open to all, which does everything in front of the masses.

This means that our power bodies function on the basis of publicity and regularly inform the population of the decisions which are taken and of the results of their implementation. This also means that in all their activities the soviets rely on the multi-million active of citizens, on support of the broad mass of the working people.

It is the maintenance of this invigorating contact between the soviets and population that is one of the main functions of the organs of the press whose work we speak of today.

The major party decisions of recent years and the new Constitution of the country open up vast new opportunities to the soviets. The work of the soviets covers practically all the spheres of our people's life--the economy and culture, everyday life and trade, public education and health care, public order, and work activities. Therefore the newspaper must raise all these matters in still more principled way. And not simply raise but do it in a most readable form, finding ways to the hearts of millions of readers.

Then people in every home and every family will be really looking forward to it. The same of course applies to the journal.

It is also very important that the readers be confident that everything correct and socially useful, be it the development of a new beginning, people's initiative, or a critical statement, will be supported by the newspaper. Then they will really regard the newspaper as their own.

This is why the question of effectiveness of publications is put today so keenly. Without it there can be no lively, authoritative and really mass newspaper.

Finally one cannot but say that IZVESTIYA today, too, is a powerful instrument in the cause of implementing the peaceful Leninist foreign policy of our party and the state, the ideas of proletarian, socialist internationalism. But this instrument will become still more effective if the promptitude in the publication of materials is raised, and they are made more vivid and readable in form.

I think that our today's talk and the decision which we shall take, L.I. Brezhnev pointed out in conclusion, will be helpful to the newspaper and the journal in their further work.

The decision of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on this question points out that one of the major tasks of the newspaper IZVESTIYA and the magazine SOVIETS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES is to profoundly cover the many-faceted work of the Soviets of People's Deputies in implementation of the decisions of the 25th congress of the party, plenary meetings of the CPSU Central Committee, requirements of the Constitution of the USSR, and determines the main directions of the work of the newspaper and the journal.

Some other matters of the activities of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet were considered at the meeting.

Antanas Barkauskas, Aleksey Vatchenko, Viktor Grishin, Kirill Ilyashenko, Lev Smirnov, Yevgeniy Fedorov [Moscow Radio version adds words "and others"] also spoke on the matters discussed.

KIRILENKO, ZIMYANIN ATTEND MOSCOW COMPUTER CONFERENCE

LD152055Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] Problems of the utilization of computers and automatic control systems in the national economy are being discussed at an all-union conference that opened today in Moscow.

Kirilenko, Politburo member and CPSU Central Committee secretary and Zimyanin, CPSU Central Committee secretary, are taking part in the work of the conference.

ROMANOV ATTENDS KOMOSMOL AKTIV MEETING IN SMOLNYY

LD152050Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] Warm gratitude to the party for its untiring care for young people, and readiness to devote all efforts in the struggle to implement the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress were expressed by participants of a meeting of the Leningradskaya Oblast Komsomol Aktiv today in Smolnyy.

Romanov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, took part in the work of the conference.

BRIEFS

ARMENIAN TU PLENUM--The Armenian Council of Trade Unions held its sixth plenum and examined the implementation of the decisions taken at the 25th CPSU Congress and at the 10th AUCCTU Congress. [Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0525 GMT 14 May 78 NC]

ARMENIAN SCIENTIST DIES--The Central Committee of the Armenian CP and the Council of Ministers announce the death of Prof Ashot Tovmasyan, Director of the Armenian Agricultural Institute and member of the CPSU since 1949. [Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0525 GMT 14 May 78 NC]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

BREZHNEV GREETINGS PRESENTED AT AGRICULTURAL ACADEMY

LD171052Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] A session of the Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences [VASKHNIL] has opened today in Tashkent devoted to the 60th anniversary of Lenin's decree on the organization of irrigation work in Turkestan. Greetings have been received by the session participants from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Comrade Brezhnev's greetings were read out at the session by Comrade Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 16 MAY

LD170714 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service at 0100 GMT on 16 May informs its listeners that sowing is progressing faster this year in the Pavlodarskaya Oblast--so far some 300,000 hectares of spring crops have been sown. Grain will cover nearly 2 million hectares in the oblast this year. The same broadcast reports that spring fieldwork is in progress throughout the Krasnodarskiy Kray where sowing has already been carried out on 500,000 hectares.

At 0305 GMT the radio reports that 8 million hectares have been sown in Kazakhstan.

At 1500 GMT the radio reports that mass sowing began today in the steppes of the Altayskiy Kray. Strong wheat varieties will be sown on an area in excess of 1.5 million hectares of land. With the outset of good weather, wheat sowing has begun in the southern areas. Spring crops have been sown on 250,000 hectares in the Novosibirskaya Oblast.

At 1530 GMT the radio informs its listeners that the sowing of spring grain and beets has ended in Moldavia.

At 1900 GMT the radio reports that spring crops cover 49 million hectares of land in the RSFSR, where a little more than half of the spring sowing is now complete. In the Krasnoyarskiy Kray; the Non-Chernozem Zone; Ryazanskaya, Penzenskaya and Saratovskaya oblasts, sugar beets have been planted.

At 2004 GMT the radio reports that cereal crops have been sown on more than two thirds of the area in Amurskaya Oblast, the Primorskiy Kray and the Khabarovskiy Kray.

BRIEFS

AMURSKAYA OBLAST CORPS--Amurskaya Oblast must plant 14,250 hectares of potatoes this year. By 16 May the oblast had planted 4,058 hectares of potatoes. The oblast must complete planting early grain crops and annual grasses as soon as possible in order to begin planting soybeans. But this work is progressing slowly in some rayons, for example, Mazanovskiy Rayon still has to plant nearly 22,000 hectares of early grain crops, Romnenskiy Rayon some 12,000 hectares and Seryshevskiy Rayon 11,000 hectares. So far the oblast has planted 700,000 hectares of wheat, barley and oats or 91 percent of the area planned. The oblast has already planted 90,000 hectares of annual grasses. [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 16 May 78 OW]

SALYUT-6 ORBIT CORRECTED BY GROUND CONTROL CENTER

LD1619547 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] It was reported from Flight Control Center that a correction was made today on the orbit of the long-term orbital station Salyut-6. During the 2 months of its unnamed flight, the station--because of the braking effect of the atmosphere which is extremely thin but nonetheless exists even at high altitudes--moved slightly closer to earth. Thus it was necessary to correct its orbit.

Further Coverage

LD1622347 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1900 GMT on 16 May carries a dispatch by special correspondent Petr Pelekhov from Flight Control Center. He remarks that the pace of work involved with Salyut-6 in its unmanned phase is just as hectic as when it was manned, with specialist information being constantly beamed down to ground control screens.

Pelekhov remarks that information about how the station's systems reacted to the orbit correction are just about to come up on the screens. He says that the correction was carried out outside the radio visibility zone; radio signals were transmitted to the station providing it with information about when, where and how the correction should be carried out. The station's engine was turned on at 1650 and 24 seconds, when the station was over the Atlantic; it was turned off after 49.3 seconds. This provides enough power for the station to lift its orbit by 30 km.

Pelekhov then remarks that some new information has just come up on the screen--information about the new orbit. One of the Flight Control Center specialists then explains the information on the screen, saying that the minimum height is 336 mms, while before the minimum was 308 kms and the maximum 337 kms. Pelekhov asks what the remaining figures on the screen are, and is told that they show the impulse received by the station while the engine was on, accelerating the station by 15.2 meters per second. The station's average speed is 80,000 meters per second, and yet only some 15 meters per second acceleration were required to lift the station 30 km higher.

Pelekhov reports that the station's course was changed to 150 degrees; the period of orbit is 91 minutes and the orbital inclination is 51.679 degrees.

Pelekhov concludes the dispatch by asking the specialist whether everything has gone according to plan and the latter confirms this.

BRIEFS

AMGUEMA ANTARCTIC VOYAGE ENDS--The diesel-electric vessel Amguema arrived in Vladivostok yesterday after a long voyage to the 23d Soviet Antarctic expedition area. [Vladivostok Maritime Service in Russian to the Pacific Far East 0700 GMT 13 May 78 OW]

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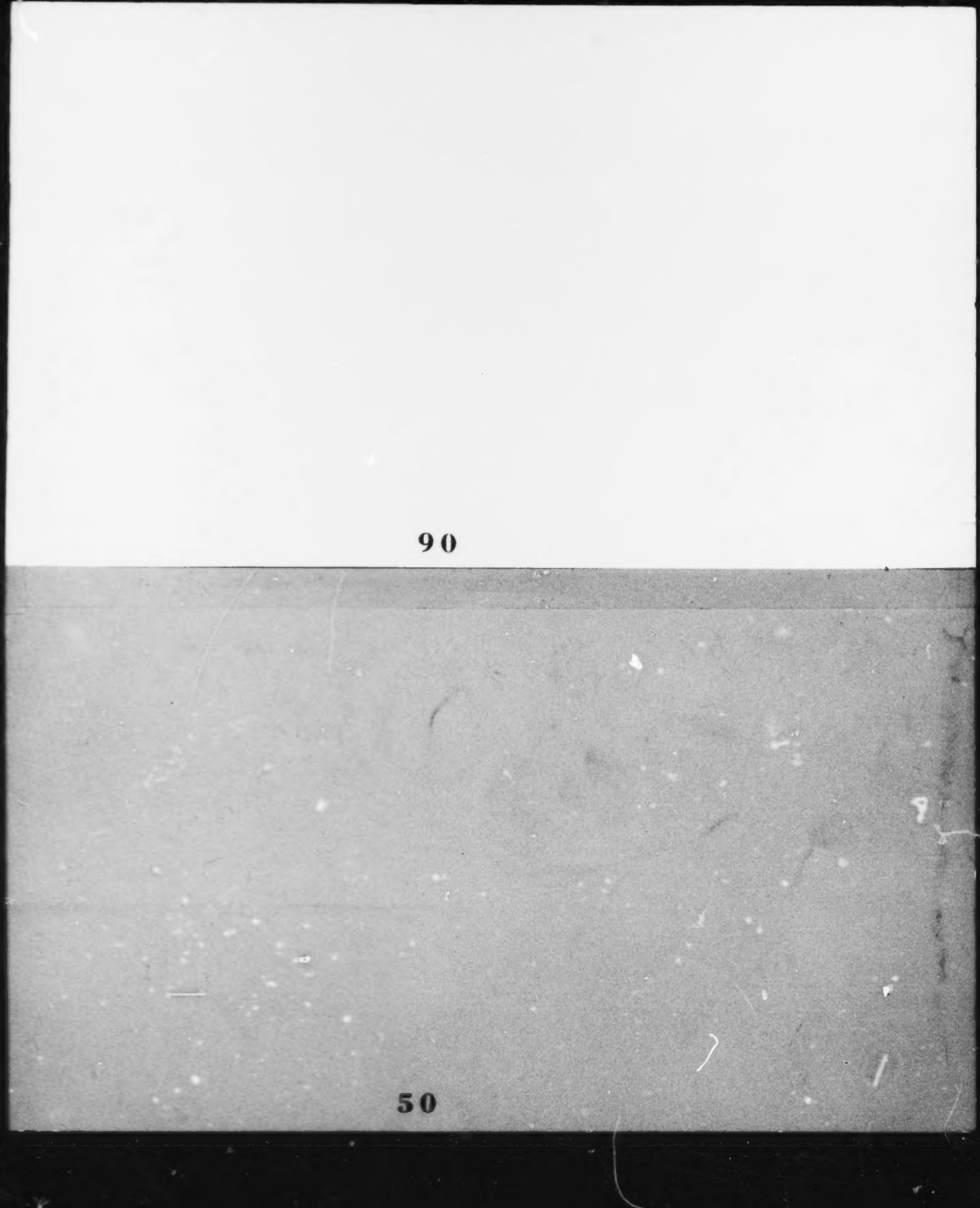
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